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More price cuts put pressure on OPEC

PARIS. March 12 (AFP) — The decision this week by Norway and the Soviet Union to cut their oil export prices has given another twist to the screw which is putting pressure on the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

OPEC ministers are to hold a special meeting in Vienna on March 19 to decide how to cope with the weak market and price cuts by non-OPEC producers.

The move by Norway and the USSR follows the decision by Britain to reduce the price of North Sea oil by \$4 to \$31.5 a barrel from March 1.

On Tuesday, Norway reduced its price by \$4, and two days later the Soviet Union Thursday told Finland that it was aligning its prices on the North Sea.

The main question now being asked in oil circles is how OPEC will act to hold onto its market share and avoid a further price collapse. Following price cuts announced by Venezuela and Iran in March, the average OPEC price at the end of February had fallen to \$33.5 — or two percent below the level at the end of 1981 and 5.3 percent lower than in March 1981.

Potential buyers can now purchase British or Norwegian oil at 15 percent less than the price charged by OPEC members Nigeria.

On housing policy

Spadolini calls for trust vote

ROME. March 12, (R) — Italy's shaky coalition government Friday called for a vote of confidence to force parliamentary approval of its housing policy as the powerful Communist Party made a fresh bid for power.

The confidence vote, on a decree including more funds for public housing schemes, is the fifth the government has posed in five months. It compels Italy's squabbling ruling parties to rally behind Prime Minister Giovanni Spadolini.

Only Thursday, the five-party government, which holds a paper majority in parliament, was defeated on a Communist motion over plans to reform Italy's state energy giant ENI. The confidence vote, in which deputies have to make their decision publicly, will be held Saturday.

Spadolini, appointed last June as Italy's

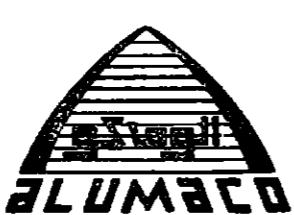
Eritreans hit back

BEIRUT, March 12 (R) — Eritrean fighters said Friday they had killed more than 1,700 Ethiopian troops in a counter-attack launched last weekend to resist a major government offensive.

The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) said in a communiqué issued here it had killed 1,376 Ethiopian soldiers, wounded 590 and pushed back government forces 36 kms in fighting along the Red Sea coast of Eritrea Province.

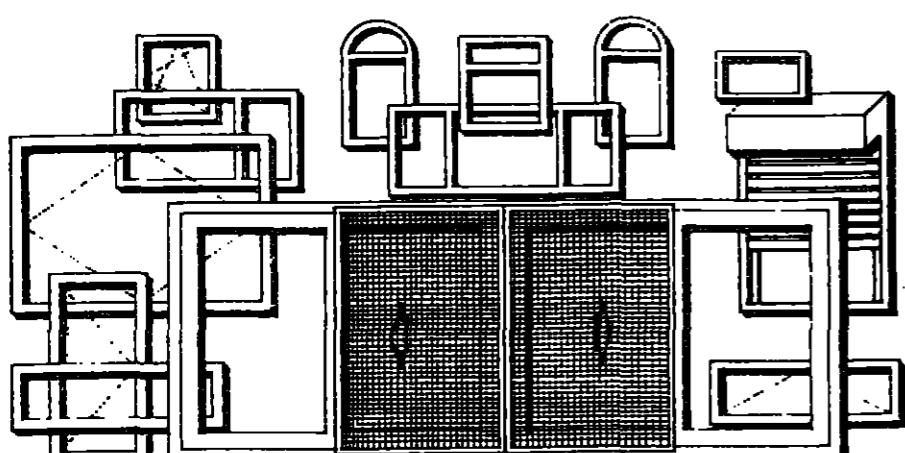
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Venezuela, Mexico hint at new cartel

PHOENIX, March 12 (AP) — Representatives from Venezuela and Mexico are discussing the possibility of forming their own cartel to supply the United States and Canada with heavy crude oil, a Venezuelan petroleum consultant says.

Market analysts see Nigeria as a weak link in the OPEC price structure because with a large population, it needs revenue and is under buyer pressure to trim prices in the prevailing glut.

New York oil sources said the Nigerians had told customers they would cut prices during or soon after OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) meets in Vienna on March 19 to consider coordinating output cuts, in defense of the \$34 reference price.

Reacting to this, the authoritative Lagos sources said that when key OPEC ministers met in Qatar last weekend Saudi Arabia and Kuwait said strongly that they opposed price cuts and favored lower production. The sources said all 13 OPEC members were willing to trim output. But some members would have to agree on drastic cuts before Nigeria could be expected to join in defending the reference price.

Ortega, who said he was not speaking as a representative of the Venezuelan government, said a Mexican delegation was in Caracas Wednesday to meet with Venezuelan officials to discuss forming their own organization. He said it probably would be easier for the United States and Canada to work with such an organization than with the Arabs.

Formation of a new cartel would not mean that Venezuela, one of the five founding members of OPEC in 1960, plans to pull out of OPEC. Ortega said.

He said Venezuela will continue to belong to OPEC because the organization provided relatively stable price for the light and medium Venezuelan crude oil.

Ortega was in the Phoenix area to speak at the American Graduate School of International Management in suburban Glendale.

A former senator, he coordinates the doctorate economics department at the University of Santa Maria and serves as a consultant on economic and oil matters to Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins and to private companies.

Steps to combat alcoholism urged

STRASBOURG, March 12 (AP) — A part of the tax on alcoholic beverages should be set aside to combat alcoholism and the effects it has on society and health in Western Europe, the European Parliament said in a resolution approved Friday.

The parliament, however, ruled that an increase in the already high tax would not be an effective way of controlling alcohol abuse because it would encourage the "less well-off to consume lower quality products — those that are more harmful to health."

The parliament is the directly elected advisory branch of the 10-nation European Common Market.

Alcoholism in member countries has reached "worrysome proportions," according to a parliament report prepared for a debate on the subject here this week.

Alcohol consumption increases during the past 30 years have ranged from a 37 percent rise in Italy to a 276 percent upsurge in the Netherlands, the report said. The consumption of alcohol is making a "strong comeback" particularly among the young as a substitute for drugs, the report said.

Girl becomes sixth of living generation

REDWOOD CITY, California, March 12 (AP) — A seven-pound girl born Friday became the sixth living generation of women in a family whose roots stretch back to 1891.

Kimberly Kathleen Peters, 19, gave birth to the baby, Tara Kathleen Peters, at 3:07 a.m. at Kaiser Foundation Hospital while her 21-year-old husband, George A. Peters Jr., and a crew filming a documentary about the family looked on.

The birth makes Frankie Underwood, of Georgia, a great-great-grandmother.

"When the baby came out, there were absolute cheers in the delivery room," said Michael Colozzi, a family friend making the film.

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Francois Mitterrand

Gold price slumps to \$322.50

LONDON, March 12 (R) — The price of gold slipped again in a nervous market Friday and bullion dealers fixed the metal at its lowest setting in London since September 1979.

In early trading the price of gold fell \$3.5 to \$322 an ounce, before moving up to \$322.5 for the fix, when dealers set the market price at which most contracts in the metal are made.

The price of gold has fallen from just under \$400 an ounce at the start of the year. The slide has accelerated in the last two weeks and dealers said the market was very vulnerable to any speculative selling aimed at testing new lows.

U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig told the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee Wednesday that the Soviet Union had sold a record 60 tons of gold in January to meet cash problems. Middle Eastern states are also reported to have sold some of their stocks to meet deficits caused by the oil glut.

The Soviet Union is the world's second largest gold producer after South Africa. Its gold sales are always cloaked in considerable secrecy. Trade sources told Reuters earlier this month that the Moscow was borrowing money from U.S. banks to buy grain after two poor crops in a row, suggesting a cash shortage problem.

The Russians are also believed to be helping Poland to meet payments on its Western debts, and recently sold considerable quantities of heating oil as well as diamonds on international markets, according to market sources.

Gold staged a minor recovery earlier this week, moving up from Monday's New York low of \$321.75 to \$335 by midweek.

To narrow differences

Mitterrand opens talks with Reagan

WASHINGTON, March 12 (R) — French President Francois Mitterrand met President Ronald Reagan at the White House Friday for talks which U.S. officials expected would deal with disagreements over Central America and economic policies.

President Mitterrand was greeted on arrival by national security adviser William Clark. He had earlier flown by supersonic Concorde from Paris.

Talks were to start immediately and continue over lunch. Mitterrand planned to fly back to Paris Friday evening. The talks were taking place against a background of U.S. displeasure at French policy toward Central America and French and European concern over high U.S. interest rates.

The Reagan administration, while approving of France's strong military posture toward the Soviet Union, is worried about French participation in the planned natural gas pipeline from Soviet Siberia to Western Europe. It is particularly concerned at proposed low-interest French loans to Moscow in connection with the project. Undersecretary of State James Buckley flies to European capitals Saturday to discuss the pipeline and the question of future credits to Moscow.

America admits Soviet arms edge

MONTEREY, California, March 12 (R) — The U.S. will not regain its military margin of safety with the Soviet Union for six or seven years, U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has said.

"By then we will not have gained military superiority, but a measure of strength to deter a first strike by the Soviets," he told a meeting here Thursday. He said that to

achieve even this target, the U.S. would have to build its military strength at a substantial rate.

He said the Soviet Union at present a nuclear war could be won. On the situation in El Salvador, Weinberger said: "We have to ensure the Soviet Union does not gain a foothold directly or through a client state on the mainland of Central America."

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Contracts for municipal projects let**Khaled okays SR485m canals plan**

JEDDAH, March 12 — King Khaled has approved a proposal by Prince Miteb, minister of public works and housing and acting minister of municipal and rural affairs, to introduce two new storm water drainage canals at Wadi Wajj in Taif, *Oka* reported Friday.

The proposal was formulated by Prince Miteb after a field visit. He found that one canal is not enough to drain the waters that flood the valley. King Khaled immediately addressed a letter to the Ministry of Finance and National Economy ordering that SR485 million be earmarked for the project under the coming fiscal year's budget.

In a separate development, according to *Al-Jazeerah* Friday, the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs awarded contracts totaling more than 12.95 million. These included a SR4 million contract for the creation of a zoo in Jizan within 12 months. The second over SR4.15 million contract with a 12-month implementation period is for surfacing, side-walk construction and lighting for Horma municipality.

The third SR394,805 contract with a four

month implementation period provides for permanent surfacing of streets in Dawadmi. The fourth SR254,800 contract with a four month implementation period concerns temporary surfacing in Dawadmi.

A fifth SR224,100 contract calls for temporary surfacing in Hota Bani Tamim. The sixth SR 53,566 and the seventh SR 178,831 contracts call for the fencing of cemeteries in

Abi Uraish in the Western Province. The eighth SR3.18 million contract provides for surfacing and lighting for Al-Mujammaa streets. The ninth SR499,000 contract calls for asphalting the streets of Madkhal Afif within three months. A tenth contract, whose value was not disclosed, calls for temporary surfacing of Al-Sudair and related villages' streets.

economic attaché of the Korean embassy, said the economic and cultural relations between the two countries have been fostered by various joint venture agreements and exchange of visits. There are, he said, 19 Saudi-Korean joint ventures on a private basis in the Kingdom, including 3 manufacturing and 3 services projects. (car maintenance and ship repairing).

Since 1980, he said, the Republic of Korea has sent its agricultural technicians to the Model Agricultural Institute in Buraidah. Apart from 11 railway technicians and 300 nurses since 1979, Korea has provided technical training to 132 students of the College of Engineering of King Abdul Aziz University from 1979 through 1981.

Under the technical cooperation agreement between the Saudi Arabian National Center for Science and Technology (SANCST) and the Korean Institute of Science and Technology (KIST), he said, four joint research projects are progressing and KIST computer specialists are participating in operation and management of computer centers of SANCST.

About 100 Korean meteorological experts are working in the Kingdom since 1976 and 120 Saudi refinery experts are being trained in Korea since 1981 under an agreement between Petroline and Korea Oil Corp.

In the field of sports, Eu-Kwang Chung said, 10 soccer and an equal number of basketball teams have visited in 1981, besides 10 Korean Tae-Kwon-To instructors to support public security forces of the Kingdom. He said the visit of the minister will further strengthen bilateral relations.

Prayer Times

Saturday	Makkah	Madinah	Riyadh	Dammam	Buraidah	Tabuk
Fajr (Dawn)	5:07	5:08	4:40	4:27	4:51	5:21
Dhuhr (Noon)	12:30	12:31	12:02	11:49	12:14	12:43
Asr (Afternoon)	3:54	3:56	3:27	3:14	3:38	4:08
Maghreb (Sunset)	6:30	6:31	6:02	5:48	6:13	6:42
Isha (Night)	8:00	8:01	7:32	7:18	7:43	8:12

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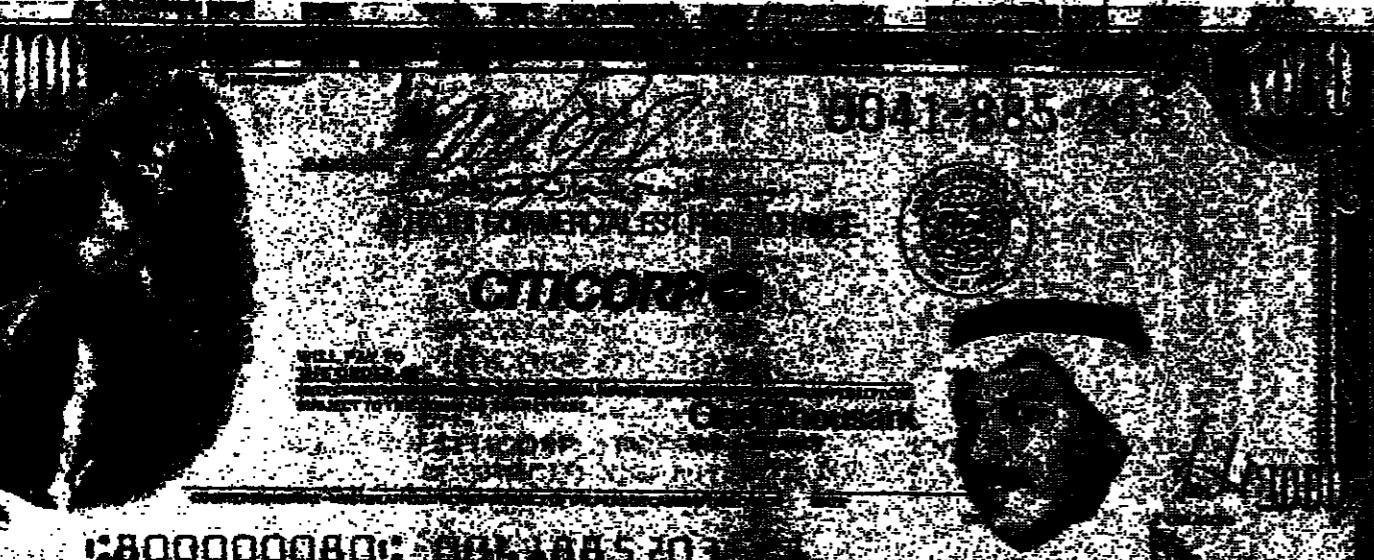
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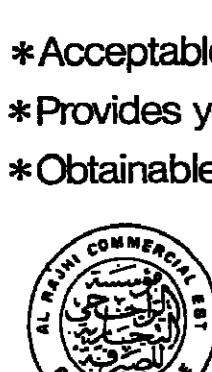
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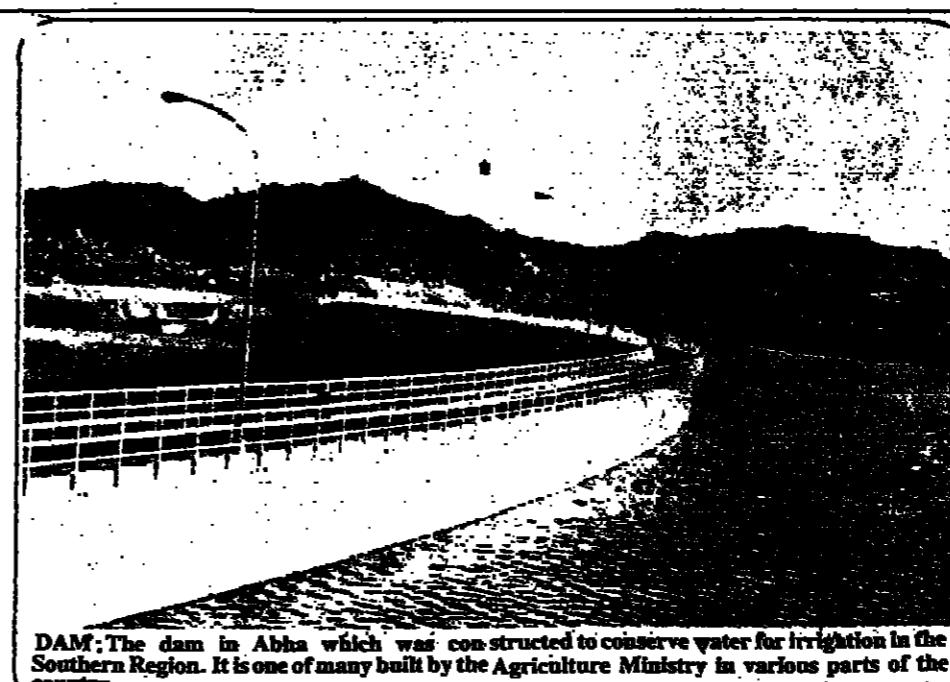
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DAM: The dam in Abha which was constructed to conserve water for irrigation in the Southern Region. It is one of many built by the Agriculture Ministry in various parts of the country.

**Kansas U to hold parley
on U.S., Arab trade links**

Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, March 12 — A conference aimed at boosting trade between the United States and the Arabian peninsula is scheduled for March 21-23 in Manhattan, Kansas.

Speaking at the conference will be Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, as well as American and Arab experts on trade and industry. The keynote speaker at the conference, the eighth sponsored by Kansas State University, will be Sen. Nancy Kassebaum, R-Kan. She will address the dinner meeting

of U.S. and Arab business leaders.

The conference is focusing on both traditional trade affairs as well as current trade opportunities. Studies of the cultural heritage of the Arab world and the Midwest of the United States will take up much of the first day, with lectures on how Americans and Arabs view each other.

Economic planning in Saudi Arabia and general business practices on the peninsula also are topics for discussion. Industry group meetings on data processing, agriculture, construction and engineering also are on the agenda.

**Swiss festival
opens at Riyadh
Intercontinental**

By Staff Writer

RIYADH, March 12 — A Swiss gastronomic festival was opened at the Riyadh Intercontinental Hotel by Swiss Ambassador Andre Maillard on Thursday. The inauguration was preceded by a documentary on the serene beauty of the Swiss country side which included mountains, streams, and grasslands with cattle grazing.

Swissair, which organized the food festival in cooperation with the Intercontinental Hotels in Geneva and Riyadh, announced the results of the photographic contest conducted by it. The first prize — a Leica camera was won by Allan Billeaud; second prize — a trip to Switzerland by Swissair and three nights stay, offered by Movember — was won by K.C. Lee; and the third prize — a pair of binoculars — went to Nimer Haddad.

Swiss specialties prepared by the chef of the Geneva Intercontinental included melted cheese with potatoes, finely sliced veal with cream and mushrooms and grilled Swiss sausages with onions.

Speaking to *Arab News*, Andre Maillard said Switzerland exports SR2 billion worth of goods to the Kingdom including food products, watches and machinery. Switzerland has a large number of projects in the Kingdom including about 30 percent of the electricity generating capacity, he said.

First aid units planned

RIYADH, March 12 — The Saudi Red Crescent Society is considering an increase in the number of its first aid centers under the present five-year development plan, *Al-Jazeerah* reported Friday. It will also increase its centers in some of the Kingdom's airports and purchase fully equipped ambulances. It also plans to develop its new communications network.

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Egypt to attend talks of nonaligned in Kuwait

CAIRO, March 12 (Agencies) — A top Egyptian official said Thursday Egypt would attend next month's nonaligned foreign ministers' meeting in Kuwait. The event would mark the first visit by an official Egyptian delegation to an Arab state opposed to the 1979 Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

Speaking to reporters at the foreign ministry, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghalib did not say who would head the delegation to the conference. Egypt's Foreign Minister is Kamal Hassan Ali.

Seventeen Arab states and the Palestine Liberation Organization broke off diplomatic links with Egypt to protest the signing in

Velioles visits Oman

MUSCAT, March 12 (R) — U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Nicholas Velioles Thursday discussed the Middle East and matters of mutual interest with the Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf Al Alawi Abdulla, U.S. officials said.

The U.S. diplomat, who also met the Omani Information Minister Abdul Aziz Rowas arrived here Wednesday.

Russia denies gas warfare in Afghanistan

MOSCOW, March 12 (AP) — Soviet officials again have denied U.S. allegations that the Kremlin is using chemical weapons in Afghanistan, and a Soviet general branded Washington the "monopoly leader" in creating and stockpiling the deadly arms.

Maj. Gen. Anatoly Kuntsevich also pledged at a news conference Thursday that the Soviets will match, for defensive purposes, any new chemical weapons that the United States produces. Walter J. Stoessel, deputy U.S. Secretary of State, told Congress earlier this week that the United States had specific information that Soviet forces in Afghanistan have killed more than 3,000 persons in Afghanistan by chemical warfare. "The actual total is considerably higher," he said.

And Yuri Chernyakov, chief of the press department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, denounced as a "lie through and through" U.S. assertions that the Soviets have used toxic agents as part of their efforts to defeat Islamic fighters in Afghanistan. "This lie is particularly cynical in view of the fact that the only chemical weapons used in Afghanistan are U.S.-made grenades with which the

March 1979 of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, which resulted from the September 1978 U.S.-sponsored Camp David Accords between Egypt and Israel.

The Arab League headquarters was moved from Cairo, and the Arab States attempted to break all economic and political links with Egypt. However, many Arab airlines still fly to Cairo.

Of Arab states only Sudan, Somalia and Oman have full diplomatic links with Egypt.

Meanwhile, Britain's ambassador to Egypt delivered a message from British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on her government's Middle East policy Thursday, foreign ministry sources said.

Ambassador Sir Michael Weir gave the letter, a response to a message sent by Mubarak to Mrs. Thatcher last month, to Osama Al-Baz, first-deputy foreign minister and the president's foreign policy adviser. Britain is one of four West European countries that decided to contribute troops to the Sinai peacekeeping force which will patrol the area after the Israelis withdraw from the peninsula next month.

United States supplies counterrevolutionary groups," he said.

Meanwhile in Strasbourg, France, it was announced a delegation of the European parliament will visit Pakistan next month in an effort to bring about a unification of the Afghan resistance movement.

The parliament is preparing a report that "could lead to the recognition of the Afghan resistance movement," said Lord Bethell of Britain, head of the delegation. The week-long visit will exploit the parliament's "good contacts" with the Afghan fighters, Lord Bethell said. Several members of the Afghan resistance movement visited the parliament in December.

Lord Bethell said the delegation also will look into the reported use of chemical weapons by Soviet troops in the region.

In New Delhi, analysts said Friday, the forthcoming national conference of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) is likely to give President Babrak Karmal a sound political base and may herald the birth of a virtually new, relatively faction-free and strong Communist Party in Afghanistan.

Opposition asks Zia to lift curbs

KARACHI, March 12 (R) — Pakistan's main opposition grouping, the Movement for Democracy (MRD) has announced a seven-point charter of demands and said it would launch a nationwide movement for their acceptance by the military government.

The current MRD convenor, Fatehbav Khan, told a news conference here that the demands included immediate release of detained politicians, lawyers, journalists, students and labor leaders and reinstatement of employees sacked by state-run organizations. Other demands were a 25 percent cut in the prices of essential commodities and removal of restrictions on the movement of political parties.

MRD also asked for withdrawal of police and paramilitary forces from educational institutions and an end to eviction of jobless people from settlements on municipal lands. It also demanded repatriation of an estimated 300,000 Pakistanis known as Biharis stranded in Bangladesh since it separated from Pakistan in December 1971.

MRD was formed early last year by eight banned political parties, including the Pakistan People's Party of executed former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. Its convenorship rotates among the member parties which hold office for a month.

621 militants face trial in eastern Turkey

ANKARA, March 12 (AFP) — A total of 621 suspected militants from Turkey's largest leftist underground organization, Dev. Vol. will go on trial April 15 in the eastern city of Erzincan, official sources have said. They were accused of terrorist activities in Turkey.

Nearly 900 other alleged members of Dev. Vol. are on trial in eight Turkish military courts. A total 178 death penalties have been requested against them.

Meanwhile, 81 suspected members of two separatist groups, Kawa (renaissance) and Ala Rıgari (real freedom), are being tried by the martial law court in Erzurum, eastern Turkey. The death penalty has been requested for eight of them.

Discusses Libya

Barre requests Reagan to speed up military aid

WASHINGTON, March 12 (Agencies) — President Muhammad Siad Barre of Somalia has said he was not afraid of Libya whose leader Muammar Qaddafi has threatened to overthrow his government.

He told a press conference after an hour-long meeting with President Reagan that he had asked the president for a speed-up of U.S. military aid. President Barre, who said "we are not so afraid of Libya", sought to play down any Libyan threat to the Horn of Africa region, declaring: "We don't believe Libya is as big a threat as you talk too much about." He asserted a more serious threat was posed by the Soviet Union, which supports neighboring Ethiopia.

U.S. officials said the Somali leader, on the third day of a five-day Washington visit, had made a general request for more aid and the administration was considering it. Asked whether he was satisfied with a proposal to provide aid of up to \$112 million next year, President Barre said his Washington meetings were satisfactory but "the amount is something else."

Asked to explain, he said: "I don't like to complain," and expressed confidence in the future. He said he needed aid more rapidly to meet Somalia's needs.

The administration is asking Congress for about \$30 million in "non-lethal" military aid such as trucks, radar and communications equipment. The rest of the 1983 aid is to consist of economic, food and refugee assistance.

When Barre arrived at the White House, demonstrators led by a group called the Somali community in North America waved banners and called for his ouster. Secretary of State Alexander Haig told reporters later the meeting between President Reagan and the Somali leader was very productive. He described Somalia as a good friend of the United States that had collaborated closely with Washington on security.

Haig praised Somalia's assistance for "hundreds of thousands" of refugees who fled the recent fighting in the Ogaden region of Ethiopia.

U.N. to seek French unit for UNIFIL

UNITED NATIONS, March 12 (R) — The U.N. Security Council agreed Thursday night to ask France to provide an infantry battalion for the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) and ask other countries to strengthen their existing contingents. This follows a decision by the council last month to increase UNIFIL from 6,000 men to approximately 7,000.

France already has a logistics unit of more than 700 men serving with the force. Italy, Norway and Sweden are also represented by logistics units while infantry battalions have been provided by Fiji, Ghana, Ireland, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway and Senegal.

Security Council President Jean Kirkpatrick of the United States, in a letter Thursday to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, said the council had agreed to a formula he suggested for strengthening the peacekeeping force. This involves requesting France to provide an infantry battalion and asking "certain other of the present troop contributing countries, whose contingents need to be strengthened," to increase their numbers.

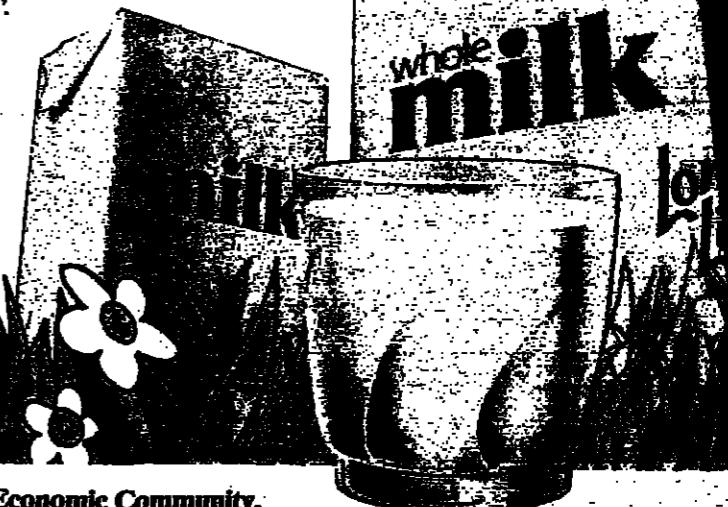
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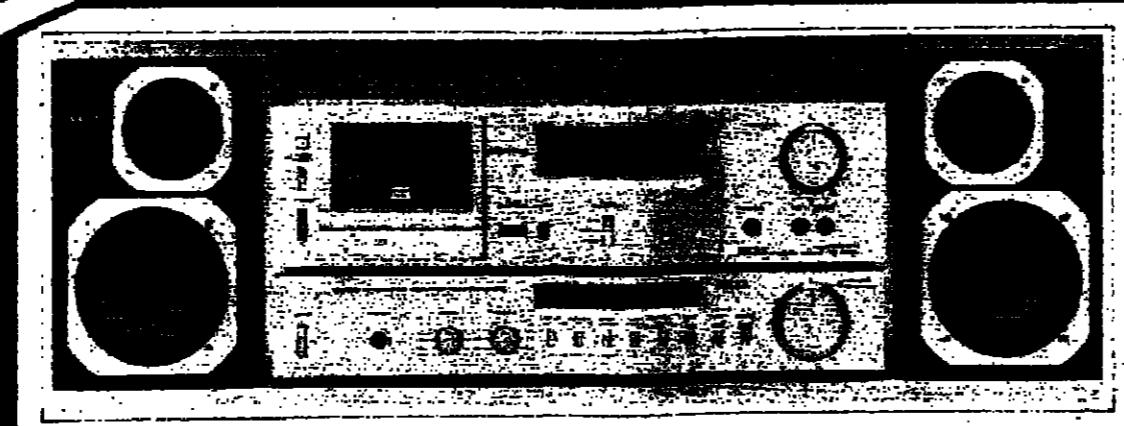
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LEBANESE PRESIDENCY

It increasingly looks as though U.S. special envoy Philip Habib has taken up an additional task, his already overworked schedule notwithstanding. Habib is increasingly concerning himself with the question of who is to become Lebanon's president after President Sarkis' term ends later this summer.

One of the contenders is National Bloc leader Raymond Eddé, who has, however, declared from his voluntary exile in Paris that his candidacy is conditional upon the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Lebanon, with the exception of the United Nations forces in South Lebanon. Eddé might be one of the contenders whom Habib will not meet, as the view from Beirut is that Eddé's line has grown remote from the realities of the situation in Lebanon. To them, what Eddé wants as a condition is in reality a task which will take a great deal of time and effort to accomplish.

But Eddé has made another point regarding the direct interference on the part of the U.S. envoy and others in the question of the Lebanese presidential election, when he said that on this count, things went on as before in Lebanon, that the seven years of suffering which the country has undergone had changed nothing.

Sadly, one has to concede that this apparently is the case and that, not for the first time, the question of the presidency will be resolved primarily through what others want for Lebanon rather than for what it wants for itself.

Saudi Arabian press review

The constructive outcome achieved by Riyadh's GCC ministerial meeting and the shameful stance of the Libyan regime which has become a permanent source for stirring inter-Arab disputes appeared in editorial comment in Friday's newspapers.

On the outcome of the GCC ministerial conference held recently in Riyadh, *Oka'* said the meeting has given a new momentum to the council's efforts toward achieving full integration and unity among the GCC six-member states.

The paper praised the council's recent success in defusing tension between Bahrain and Qatar over the Hawar Island issue and entrusting the Kingdom to exert its good offices to settle the dispute in a peaceful and satisfactory way.

The success in settling this dispute within the framework of the council's basic statute reflects the true spirit of cooperation, coherence and fraternity prevailing among the GCC member states," the paper said.

Al-Jazirah and *Al-Madinah* denounced Libyan leader Qaddafi's anti-Muslim stance "which

only serves the malicious designs of big powers led by Zionism and communism."

Al-Madinah said the Islamic world is now fully aware of the destructive consequences that can be brought to Arab and Islamic solidarity as a result of Qaddafi's irresponsible and reckless policy.

"The tyrannical regime of Qaddafi is now on the verge of collapse and the time is ripe to punish Libya's tyrant for his criminal acts against the unity of the Arab and Islamic world," the paper said.

The Libyan people have now realized the damage caused to their heritage, wealth and glorious history at the hands of their insane ruler," it added.

Al-Jazirah branded Qaddafi as an agent of communism "which is trying to create inter-Arab disputes and prevent the establishment of any Arab-Islamic solidarity and collective front to face the dangers of Zionism and communism."

The paper asked that Qaddafi be barred from taking any part in Arab and Islamic meetings "so as to safeguard Arab unity from Qaddafi's suspicious and treacherous role." (SPA)



Ethiopia mobilizes 120,000 troops to crush Eritrea fighters

By Bernd Debusmann

NAIROBI —

Ethiopia's Marxist military rulers have committed half their Soviet-equipped armed forces, the biggest in black Africa, to what they see as the final government offensive in a 21-year war of independence in Eritrea.

The government in Addis Ababa, a close ally of the Soviet Union, has given no indication of the size of the force involved in the latest attempt to crush freedom fighters waging a war for the independence of the strategic Red Sea province of Eritrea. But Western military experts estimated that at least 120,000 troops (out of a total of around 240,000) have been deployed in Eritrea and neighboring Tigre province, where a separate resistance movement is fighting the government.

Ethiopia's soldiers are backed by tanks, artillery, fighterbombers and helicopter gunships of the type used by the Russians in Afghanistan. "The government's firepower is impressive," said one diplomat, familiar with developments in the volatile Horn of Africa. "But firepower alone doesn't win wars."

The government drive is by far the biggest military effort to pacify Ethiopia's unruly north since the first shots were fired in Eritrea in September, 1961.

On Feb. 1, a policy document adopted by a meeting chaired by Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile

Mariam vowed to "mobilize forces for the total and final destruction of remaining rebel strongholds (and) ... search and destroy supporters and sympathizers of the rebel movements." Third World diplomats in Addis Ababa said that Lt.-Col. Mengistu had gambled his prestige on the success of the offensive by firmly committing himself to the destruction of the freedom fighters.

Past efforts to bring the warring sides to the negotiating table have involved parties as diverse as Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri and Cuban leader Fidel Castro. Neither was able to bridge the vast gulf between the fighters and the government.

The fighters say that the former Italian colony of Eritrea — with some 1,000 kms of coastline on the Red Sea — was illegally annexed by the late Emperor Haile Selassie.

The Ethiopians have rejected demands for Eritrean independence because they fear that the secession of the province would signal the collapse of an empire made up of a bewildering array of rival ethnic groups and tribes.

Reports from the Eritrean battle front have been sketchy but Western military experts say the freedom fighters appear to be under greater pressure than at any time since young leftist officers overthrew Haile Selassie in 1974 and perpetuated

his Eritrean policy.

Announcing the offensive, the Ethiopian government said it had launched a parallel campaign to rebuild the war-shattered province. "It seems to be a matter of first killing the fighters and then trying to smother Eritrean nationalism under a pile of banknotes," said an envoy in Nairobi.

Western diplomats in the Ethiopian capital say that the government has stopped a number of development projects in Ethiopia, one of the world's ten poorest countries, and diverted funds to Eritrea to show that it means business in pushing what is known as the "red star development campaign."

According to a spate of communiques issued by the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF), the most effective of the resistance groups, thousands of Ethiopian troops have been killed in the rugged Eritrean highlands and the sun-baked savannas of the western plains along the border with Sudan. The accounts are considered exaggerated by military experts but propaganda has not been restricted to the fighters' side: the official Ethiopian news agency reported that the fighters had been "effectively smashed" weeks before the offensive even began.

Similar statements have been issued repeatedly

Indonesia's election campaign heats up

By Peter Griffiths

JAKARTA —

Indonesia's most distinguished dissident, former Defense Minister Abdul Haris Nasution, has launched a fresh attack on President Suharto's government as campaigning starts for this year's general election.

"Nobody doubts that the ruling military-backed 'functional group,' Golkar, will win a third overwhelming victory in the May 4 poll. The economy is buoyant if not booming, food production is at an all-time high and Gen. Suharto's grip on the reins of power is stronger than ever."

The already weak official opposition parties, the United Development Party (PPP) and Nationalist Democratic Party (PDI), have also suffered internal rifts. The officially-permitted 45-day campaign period begins next Monday but under new regulations the texts of speeches must be submitted to the authorities for approval two weeks in advance.

The parliamentary election, and next year's selection by the upper house of President Suharto for a fourth term, should progress like the time-honored conventions of a traditional puppet play. If there are any hiccups in the formalized script they are likely to emanate not from the official opposition but from Nasution and his supporters.

Nasution, a 63-year-old retired general, was among 50 influential Indonesians who petitioned parliament in 1980 to censure Suharto for not establishing a more democratic system. Since then the so-called "Group of 50," which includes retired military officers, politicians and academics, has

issued several statements alleging abuses of authority, deviations from the country's 1945 constitution and electoral malpractices.

In his latest statement, circulated this week, Nasution, as the sole signatory, appeals to the armed forces to consider what he describes as deviations from the constitution they are pledged to uphold.

The statement takes the form of an open letter and 11-page memorandum addressed to the chairman of the house of representatives and the People's Consultative Congress (upper house).

In essence it reminds the military establishment that following the 1965 abortive Communist coup (in which Nasution himself narrowly escaped Communist assassination squads) it set out to correct the Suharto administration's constitutional violations.

Now, according to Nasution, the Suharto administration is perpetuating itself in power by retaining emergency decrees and laws after a decade of stability, by retaining extra-constitutional bodies like the powerful Kopkamtib National Security Agency, and by a system under which a sole presidential candidate is elected by acclamation from a congress only 39 percent of which is directly elected.

"History teaches that every time there is a deviation from the spirit of the 1945 (independence) constitution there is a national disaster," Nasution wrote. It is difficult to estimate how much effect, if any, the statements of Nasution and his group will have on the electorate and the election. The local press is banned from publicizing these statements.

According to one Western ambassador: "An elder statesman of Nasution's stature is hard to suppress and must be a thorn in the government's side."

Nevertheless officials are confident this year's poll will be the smoothest and quietest of any to date and National Security Chief Admiral Sudomo assured businessmen at a lunch last week: "I would like to invite you to continue and increase your investment in Indonesia, where stability is guaranteed."

Indonesia's 82 million electors will vote for 360 members of the house of representatives on May 4, and a further 100 are presidential or government appointees.

All lower-house representatives are in the 920-seat congress, the majority of which is made up of appointees or members because of their jobs, such as regional administrators. It is congress which will choose the new president next year and if, as expected, it is Suharto he will have ruled the country for 21 years by 1988 — longer than Indonesia's first President Sukarno.

More than half the governorships of the country's 27 provinces are occupied by serving or retired military officers as is half the cabinet. At the last general election in 1977 Golkar won 232 (64 percent) of the seats, the PPP won 99 seats (28 percent) and the PDI won 29 seats (eight percent).

Home Affairs Minister Amir Machmud has announced that some 43,000 Indonesians suspected of involvement in the 1965 coup attempt will not be permitted to take part in the poll. (R)

Perez de Cuellar avoids political involvement

By Michael Littlejohns

UNITED NATIONS —

More than two months into the single term he says he will serve as U.N. secretary-general, Javier Perez de Cuellar is still cleaning house and avoiding serious political involvement. He dislikes travel and will not make his first trip abroad as U.N. chief executive until early April, and then, he says, only because he is obliged to preside over a periodic meeting of U.N. agency leaders in Rome.

While there, he may venture for the first time as secretary general into the political arena. President Spyros Kyprianou of Cyprus and Rauf Denktaş, leader of the Turkish Cypriot minority, are eager to meet him in Italy to talk separately about slow-moving efforts, under U.N. sponsorship, to resolve their differences. Perez de Cuellar is an expert on this subject, having served his predecessor, Kurt Waldheim, as U.N. representative in Cyprus. He would dearly like to see an accord reached during what he has said is his "first and final mandate."

Namibia (Southwest Africa) is another problem he hopes may yield to negotiations during his five-year term.

He has been urging the United States and four other Western members serving as mediators between South Africa, which rules the territory, and the nationalist guerrilla organization that seeks its independence, to get a move on. After early promises, progress has been agonizingly slow. Even the nucleus of the massive U.N. operation to arrange

free Namibian elections leading to independence has had to be disbanded.

Always suspicious of the U.N., South African authorities have accused Perez de Cuellar of bias following his ritual denunciation of apartheid and appeal for a Namibia settlement. But he remains optimistic about a favorable outcome.

In the Middle East, he believes that the U.N. must continue to have a significant role in peace-making, but there also he has refrained from risking his personal prestige or even from saying much in public about the Arab-Israeli conflict. So little, in fact, that some Arab delegates are said to feel he is too circumspect and that a little more support for their cause would not come amiss.

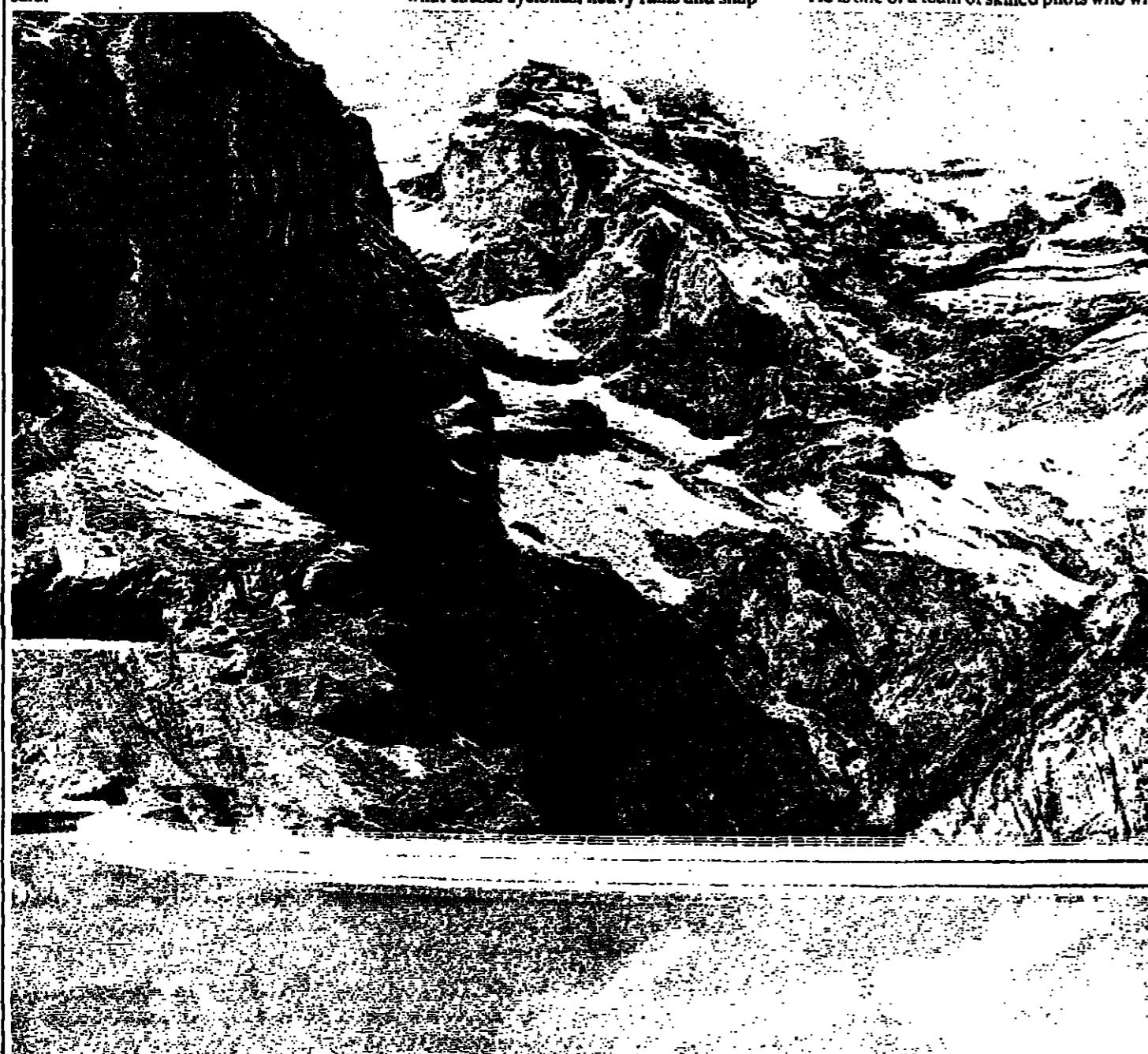
Since he took over from Waldheim on Jan. 1, Perez de Cuellar has emphasized his role as chief administrative officer, an aspect of the secretary generalship that his politically minded predecessor found little to his taste.

The new man inherited a dispirited staff, disaffected by years of governmental intrusion into personnel affairs. In his first days, he set about changing that situation, warning member states that staff matters are the secretary general's prerogative and that appointments and promotions henceforth would be

Pilots chase lightning, storms

By John Chadwick

GENEVA, (R) — Howard Ticknor, of Miami, Florida, is a man who goes looking for lightning. Snowstorms, hurricanes — whatever sort of weather means trouble — is where Ticknor aims his four-engined Lockheed 188 research plane. "It goes with the job," the former U.S. Air Force pilot said.



Mountain weather: When the weather is calm like this in the Alps it is hard to imagine that within a few hours a 'weather warning' could be issued due to unpredictable conditions which occur regularly here.

Doctor turned labor leader

Bombay workers call Samant a hero; to industry, unions he is a villain

By Granville Watts

BOMBAY, (R) — A doctor turned trade union leader who still operates out of his old dispensary has mobilized Bombay labor, confronting big business with large wage demands and often winning.

Employers have dubbed him "strike wallah" and claim he employs thugs and fear to keep strike-breakers in line.

But workers who have benefited say that Dr. Datta Samant has done more for them than any of the traditional political parties or trade unions.

Dr. Samant is currently locked in a test of strength with Bombay's powerful textile manufacturers, which has resulted in the closure of the city's 60 mills and brought 250,000 textile workers out on strike for almost two months.

Dr. Samant, 49, said that the morale of the workers was high and he was confident that the mill owners would cave in and pay substantial wage increases.

But Kantikumar Podar, a leading textile mill owner and president of Bombay Merchants Chamber, said the workers were wavering and predicted the strike would be over by the end of the month.

Podar said the Bombay mills had been badly hit by the strike, losing production of 200 million meters (218 million yards) of cloth, worth \$250 million, since the strike started on Jan. 18.

He said the mill owners refused to negotiate with Dr. Samant's union because they had an existing agreement, imposed under arbitration during the former Janata government, with the Rashtriya Mill Mazdoor Sangh Textile Workers Union.

Pakistan plans farm revolution

ISLAMABAD, (PTI) — Pakistan's new planning chief hopes to copy India's green revolution with a billion dollar aid pact with Gulf countries. In an interview published here Dr. Mahbub ul Haq, designated as deputy chairman of Pakistan's planning commission, says he sees no reason why Pakistan cannot have as high farm yields as India.

Dr. Haq, who has resigned as director of policy planning, World Bank, said in Washington that he had informally discussed the possibility of a mutual assistance pact with some Arab leaders and found them "greatly interested".

Such a pact between Pakistan and the Gulf states can ensure "security" of food supplies to the latter in return for flow of development capital.

The Gulf states, Dr. Haq said, could advance funds worth billion dollars or so either as loan or investment and become partners in a joint venture in the field of agriculture.

In return, the Arabs would achieve security of food supplies in real terms as also access to a fast growing market and the money could be paid back to them in three or four years in kind, he said.

Weather team studies how mountains affect climate

As part of a multi-national team which recently began a two-month weather probe based on Geneva airport, Ticknor now has the whole of the Alps, with all their climatic hazards, as his workshop.

The world Meteorological Organization (WMO) has launched this massive survey of Europe's biggest mountain chain in order to learn more about its weather patterns and what causes cyclones, heavy rains and snap

floods in the area of Europe dominated by the Alps.

WMO hopes thereby to improve its worldwide weather forecasts for mountainous areas. New knowledge gained in the Alps will also be used for the American Rockies, the Andes or the mountains of Tibet.

Ticknor, 49, is used to whom after 31 years flying a plane is as natural as walking. He is one of a team of skilled pilots who will

cross-cross the Alps at different heights to get the data.

Weather research flying is clearly an academic adventure. Years of probing thunderstorms for America's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration have shown him that.

"We fly straight into lightning, the idea is to seek out the worst weather possible if that's what the scientist sitting in the back wants. He decides the nature of the mission.

"I was flying once in Norway when I was caught in the middle of a snowstorm. The rear of the plane was hit by lightning and when I got down I found the tail hinge bolts had melted away.

"Lightning can look pretty spectacular from the cockpit. Sometimes you see a bolt coming straight at you and you grip your seat-belt. Boy, it really hits. Without your belt you would jump straight out of your seat."

Ticknor smiles when asked if he likes living dangerously, although admitting: "occasionally a few rivets get popped up and lightning will punch small holes into the aircraft. But I never take chances with 17 or 18 scientists on board."

Some 19 European countries including the Soviet Union are taking part in "Alpex" (Alpine experiment), which will utilize 17 planes, 11 ships in the Mediterranean and Adriatic seas, an Earth satellite and a host of ground stations and buoys. Most of the men and equipment are provided by U.N. member governments.

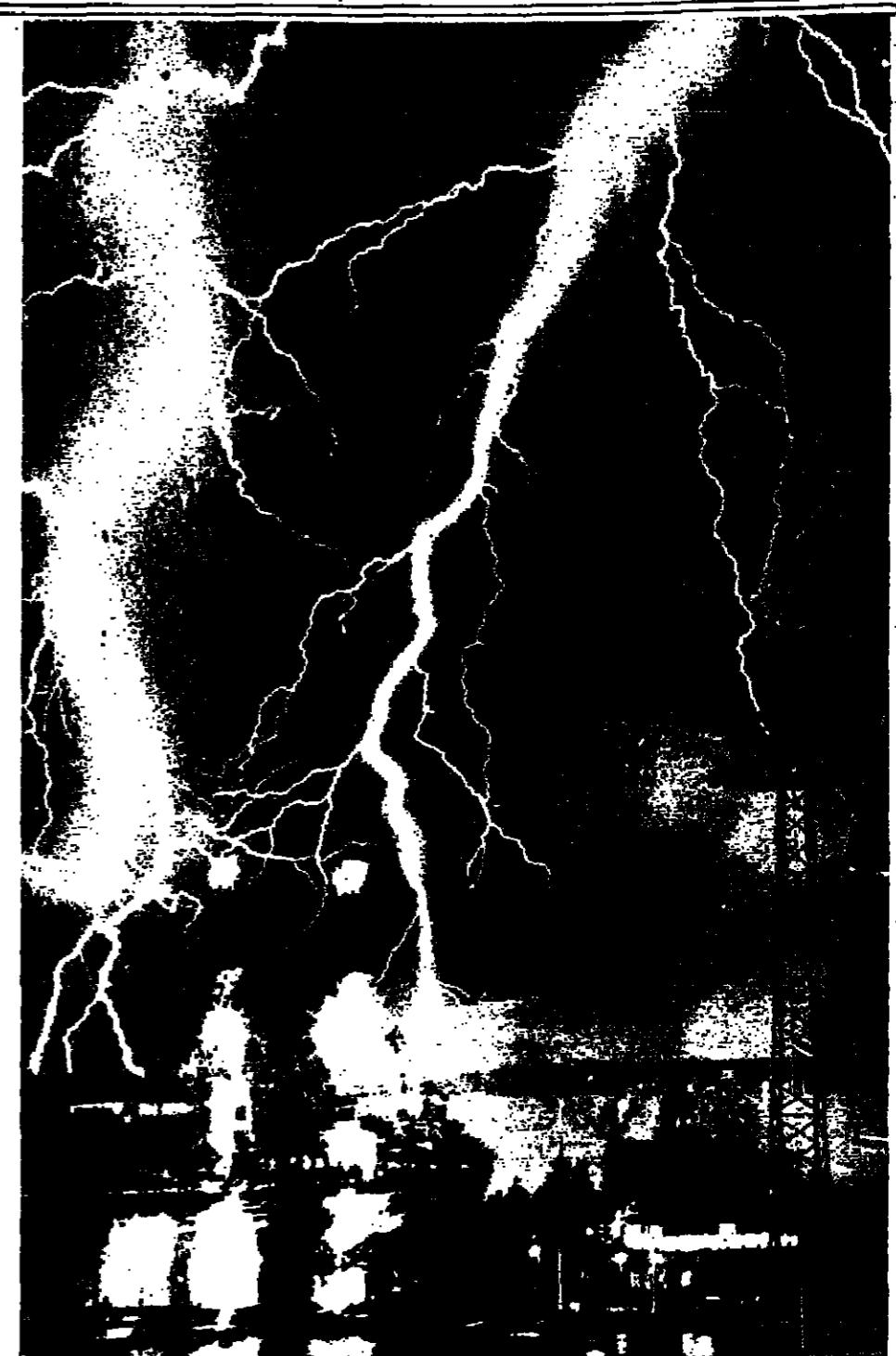
An official told reporters: "We chose the Alps, in spite of their modest size compared with the Andes, Rockies and the Tibetan range, because they produce most of the severe weather phenomena encountered in other mountain areas of the world."

Mountain complexes influence the climate on several scales, he said. On the planetary scale, they can change the airflow over a whole hemisphere, affecting weather worldwide.

On the next smaller scale — the cyclonic — winds pushed up over mountains in their path cause powerful disturbances on the downstream side. This is particularly true in the Alps, resulting in the "genoacyclones" which have ravaged Alpine valleys in Italy and produced flood tides in coastal cities like Venice.

On the smallest scale, mountains cause local weather phenomena like the down-slope winds variously known as the "Mistral" in France, the "Foehn" in Bavaria, the "boro" in Yugoslavia and the "chinook" in the Rockies.

"The mechanism of these winds, reaching up to 208 kilometers (125 miles) an hour, is not yet fully understood," an Alpex spokesman said.



LIGHTNING STRIKES: Unique photos like this are obtained by weather-watching planes which probe storm fronts and actually chase bad weather trying to learn more about it.

For this purpose, a vertical stack of aircraft will make co-ordinated traverses over the St. Gotthard and Brenner passes, directly over lines of highly accurate ground pressure stations. A similar exercise will be carried out over the Dalmatian coast.

Lower altitudes will be flown by the two turbo-prop Lockheed airliners flown by Ticknor and his colleague Gilbert Summers of the U.S. Atmospheric Research Center in Boulder, Colorado.

A twin-engined Falcon executive jet provided by the West German Air and Space Research Institute, near Munich, will fly upper levels up to 40,000 feet (12,500 meters).

Four meter long "gust probes" stick out like lances from the noses of the planes and they are also fitted with downward-facing cameras for infra-red pictures of weather patterns.

Penguins are endangered by business plan

By Kenneth J. Freed

Buenos Aires, Argentina (LAT) — The penguin is a bird of many uses. A mere glance at its loony waddle can cure depression; it is nature's perfect answer to the stodgy shirt. But now, some Argentine and Japanese entrepreneurs think the creature's skin may make the perfect glove and have proposed a two-year pilot project that would involve slaughtering nearly 100,000 of Argentina's penguins.

If the project succeeds, it will have overcome centuries of failure in efforts to find commercial uses for penguins. Their rubber-like and oily flesh has defeated the stewing pot, frying pan and oven, and there seems to be no commercial use for their short, greasy feathers.

It was as if the penguin — with its splay-footed walk, its upright stance, its head-waiter-like appearance and its friendly nature — could serve mankind best through its ability to make people smile.

But there won't be many people smiling at the way the Hinode Penguin Co. wants to do the penguin. Opponents say the plans call for using clubs to bash in the heads of the birds in order to avoid marinating the skin.

The method is the same as that used to kill baby seals in Canada and elsewhere. It was the example of the seal slaughter that caused the Argentine government in 1974 to issue a decree protecting penguins from hunting for either commercial or sport purposes.

The decree is an important factor in protecting the world's penguins, since Argentina, particularly its province of Chubut, is the home for millions of the birds.

But the national decree has a loophole. It



PENGUIN IN PROTEST: This group of penguins seems to be marching in protest. If they knew that Argentine businessmen plan to make them into oil and gloves they might turn and run.

allows the provincial governor to waive the ban temporarily if he believes that the slaughter would serve some essential purpose. The outcome could then be used to determine whether the national prohibition should be set aside or modified.

Officials of the newly formed Hinode Penguin Co. met recently with the governor of Chubut, Adm. Niceto Echauri Ayerra, and other provincial officials.

They argued that a pilot project of penguin slaughter would show that the commercial production of penguin-skin gloves and the use of oil from the bird to make food would greatly benefit the province and the nation.

Although the request is supposed to be studied at length, Chubut newspapers quote knowledgeable sources as saying the waiver is all but assured.

In fact, Hinode leaders reportedly told some government officials that they already have authorization to capture 48,000 penguins per season for two seasons. The firm said it is ready to spend \$120,000 to build a processing plant and to hire 40 people to carry out the killing.

Although Hinode officials say a major purpose of their work would be to extract oil from the birds for use in manufacturing protein for food, opponents of the plan say the real goal is to use the skin for high-priced gloves.

Company officials do not deny that they intend to use the skins for gloves, but they stress their claim that the most beneficial purpose would be for the oil.

They say penguin oil is rich in eight essential amino acids needed in producing protein for animal food and could even be used in manufacturing protein for humans.

Argentine environmentalists and other experts have cast doubt on this claim, saying that there is no shortage of amino acids and that penguin oil is of no greater value than more traditional sources.

But a technical debate over the relative values of amino acids is not likely to determine whether the penguins are killed. The methods of slaughter and the environmental and commercial impact are providing the main arguments.

The company says its methods are as humane and painless as possible. It also claims that the penguin is not an endangered species, a fact supported by the exclusion of the bird from an international convention that protects animals threatened with extinction.

In a report to the Chubut officials, Hinode executives maintained that the slaughter "will regulate the uncontrolled expansion and growth of penguins, which is progressing because of the gradual reduction and disappearance of seals" and other predators.

But opponents of the plan say that the shrinking of the seal herds proves their case. Adelino Narosky, a noted Argentine conservationist, pointed to the commercial slaughter of seals in Santa Cruz province as an example.

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JP/13/82

The brain hungers for nourishment

By Blaine Harden

WASHINGTON (WP) — Boredom kills, and those it does not kill, it cripples, and those it does not cripple, it bleeds like a leech, leaving its victims pale, insipid and brooding. Examples abound.

From science: Worms trained to find water by crawling through a plastic tube soon get bored with the trick. Rather than repeat the simple-minded maneuver, they stop wiggling and die. Rats kept in comfortable isolation quickly become jumpy, irritable and aggressive. Their bodies twitch, their tails grow scaly. But when returned to their rat pals, their ills disappear.

From history: King Louis XIV. France's enlightened "sun king" was afflicted one summer in Holland with a deadly boredom. He'd gone up from Paris in 1673 to lay siege to a Dutch fortress, figuring the siege would take all summer. Instead, it lasted only 13 days. The king and his fractious entourage had time on their hands. With nothing better to do, Louis attacked a German city, infuriating the German and Spanish Hapsburgs, forcing them to take sides with the Dutch and prolonging a bloody war for five years.

SURGICAL OR MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR STONES



Dear Dr. Steinrohn: I had a bad time with stones in my gall bladder. I suffered indigestion for years. I tried all kinds of conservative treatment until I couldn't stand the pain and gas after eating.

Finally, at the age of 56, I followed my doctor's advice and had my gall bladder removed. Within weeks I began to feel better, and have had little indigestion since.

But now my 30-year-old daughter has also been diagnosed as having gall bladder trouble. The doctor says she has one large stone.

Question: Can she do without operation if she takes the new medical treatment that dissolves gallstones? I don't want her to go along for years suffering unnecessarily as I did. — Mrs. C.

Dear Mrs. C.: I'll hedge, as I have to, and propose that your daughter's own doctor make the decision.

But I can tell you that treatment with chenodeoxycholic acid has its drawbacks. It takes months or years before stones are completely dissolved. The treatment is usually not effective in dissolving a very large solitary stone (as your daughter seems to have). After months of treatment, success is not guaranteed.

As you can see, Mrs. C., I'm not totally for or against. Proper judgment is required before making the choice between medical or surgical treatment.

MEDICALETTERS

(Replies to and from readers)

Dear Dr. Steinrohn: Suppose a person's arteries have been narrowed by atherosclerosis. Is there really any sense in trying to widen them by dissolving the fat in their walls? Can proper diet do it? — Mr. G.

Dear Mr. G.: It works in monkeys. Fat in artery walls has decreased and atherosclerosis apparently reversed. I hope it works as well in

humans. I don't know. But it's worth trying.

Dear Dr. Steinrohn: Our doctor is treating my mother, 81, for high blood pressure. But is he doing enough by simply prescribing diuretics? I should think stronger anti-hypertensive drugs would be more effective. — Mrs. T.

Dear Mrs. T.: Be thankful he's conservative. Antihypertensives should be used with caution in patients your mother's age. Besides, about half the elderly patients with high blood pressure can be controlled quite well with diuretics.

Dear Dr. Steinrohn: I need potassium in my diet. Which foods besides bananas contain high potassium? I'm getting tired of bananas. — Mrs. N.

Dear Mrs. N.: Potassium is abundant in many foods. Although a large banana contains close to 800 milligrams of potassium, a slice of watermelon contains 600, a medium-sized baked potato 500, a large orange over 450. Other foods containing potassium are spinach, apples, pears, tomatoes, grapefruit. I hope this greater choice relieves you from peeling bananas. Mrs. N.

Dear Dr. Steinrohn: I smoke a lot. I admit it isn't advised in pregnant women because it affects infants — especially their birth weight. But why is it so important if the baby weight a little less at birth? Mrs. B.

Dear Mrs. B.: I'll give you one of many reasons: low-birth-weight babies have a higher infant mortality. Reason enough to quit?

Tomorrow: Teabottles are for more than tea

By Peter J.
Steinrohn
M.D., F.A.C.P.

TV Heightens Boredom

Television, the one-eyed beast blamed for

lacking only the will to get up off their butts.

The brain — whether a worm's, a rat's or a human's — needs something to chew on. At its simplest level, boredom is the brain's pained response to nothingness or to endless repetition. The discomfort of boredom, like the gnawing of an empty stomach, is the brain's way of saying it's hungry.

In affluent, egalitarian America, most people can now afford the fashionably stultifying misery of 19th century European gentility. Anticipating the bored American teenager who persists in cruising his suburb burning \$1.30-a-gallon gasoline, the bored, second-guessed bureaucrat who's given up hope of changing the world and settles for self-medication himself with alcohol, and the bored working mother whose education trained her to think but whose job demands an even-tempered vacuity, the French thinker Senancour wrote in 1804 that boredom is inexorably bound to civilization: "Ennui is born of the opposition between what we imagine and what we feel, between the poverty of what is and the vastness of what we want."

Saul Bellow, in *Humboldt's Gift*, Americanized the idea: "boredom (is) a kind of pain caused by unused powers, the pain of wasted possibilities or talents, and (is) accompanied by expectations of the optimum utilization of capacities."

Keeping Busy Can Heighten It

Unfortunately, the human mind in a high-tech society, with endless options for distracting, entertaining and narcotizing itself can not escape boredom solely by keeping busy. The bounty and opportunities of American culture, if anything, heighten boredom by accentuating the differences between what Americans can attain and what they settle for.

Ennui, the fancy French word for being bored out of one's skull, emerged first among the nobility of Europe, who had every opportunity for material and intellectual glory —

but now their acquaintances with self-serving "inside" information.

Even without its bors, Washington, the bureaucratic city, is suffused with boredom. Every working day, whether there is work to be done or not, tens of thousands of federal swivel chairs must be filled with human beings. Unknown thousands of bureaucrats regularly perform duties that insult their intelligence. They prepare reports no one will read; they execute laws congress forgot it wrote; Michael MacCoby, a psychologist and director of a Harvard University program that studies work in the federal bureaucracy, says the greatest source of boredom in bureaucratic Washington is chronic underuse of mid-and low-level employees: "There are many who come to Washington and aren't allowed to think, who are put in positions where they really can't use their ability."

Crises Welcomed

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Inflicting Boredom

Boredom, at the very least, helps breed some of America's uglier social trends. The rate of teenage suicide has more than tripled in the United States since 1955, and psychiatrists across the country lay part of the blame to boredom born of unrealistic expectations and frustration. Divorce condemns nearly half of all marriages, and marriage counselors report boredom as a major cause.

Boredom is a factor for shoplifters, many of whom can afford to buy what they steal; for industrial saboteurs, who throw wrenches into machinery to protest the numbing monotony of assembly-line work and for housewives who besiege doctors with mystery ailments and undergo unnecessary hysterectomies that give them the kind of attention and legitimacy that complaints about boredom cannot.

Deterioration A Result Of Inactivity

There is considerable evidence that many Americans suffer from a boredom which, in the most literal way, amounts to what Kierkegaard called "sickness unto death." Healthy working men who are forced to retire frequently become despondent, their health declining faster than that of men who continue to work, according to Dr. Jay A. Winslow of the Harvard School of Public Health.

"Boredom contributes to a more rapid deterioration of whatever medical problems elderly people may have. They become enveloped in their health problems, whereas



TREE MYSTERY: The base of this tree located in a forest in Switzerland recently began disappearing a little at a time each night. A local nature-lover equipped with binoculars found that the tree was being eaten away by the sharp teeth of a family of determined beavers.

a person who is not bored could concentrate on other things," Winston says.

Across the United States, the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. has found that prominent (and presumably less bored) men and women live far longer than men and women in the general population. In two national studies comparing the mortality of people listed in *Who's Who* to that of the general population, the life insurance company found that, for all ages combined, ordinary Americans were 30 percent more likely to die than men and women who excelled in their careers.

Indeed, boredom is so pervasive in American life, so deleterious to economic productivity and the general welfare, that one might wonder why the federal government has never tried to do anything about it. Lyndon Johnson's great society might have had a far wider reach if he'd chosen a different enemy, shifting the resources of the then-liberal state from a war on poverty to a war on boredom.

Boredom At Root Of Problems

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Crises Welcomed

In Jimmy Carter's White House, former speechwriter James Fallows remembers there was "a constant yearning for a crisis to manage." A crisis, Fallows says, was considered "so much more exciting and more fun than just business as usual. If you had a crisis to manage, you didn't need to think about what to do with your time."

There's a cyclical, inescapable pattern to the boredom of appointive bureaucratic work in Washington, according to Paul Jensen, a career appointee who served four years as executive assistant and counselor to Labor Secretary Ray Marshall. The first two years pass quickly, Jensen says, as the bureaucrat figures out how to do his job and luxuriates in his power. It's during the third year, Jensen says, that boredom strikes.

Torturing Acquaintances

Any city with powerful people — people whose identity and self-confidence flows exclusively from their power — has the potential for great boredom. Washington has more than its share of pompous holders forth who, because of some connection with the White House, the Congress, the press or a fancy law firm, feel powerful enough to tor-

"The issues you see are all the same. They are absolutely predictable. Problems never seem to get solved. You know what the White House is going to say before it says it and that you are going to have the same problems with the committees on the Hill."

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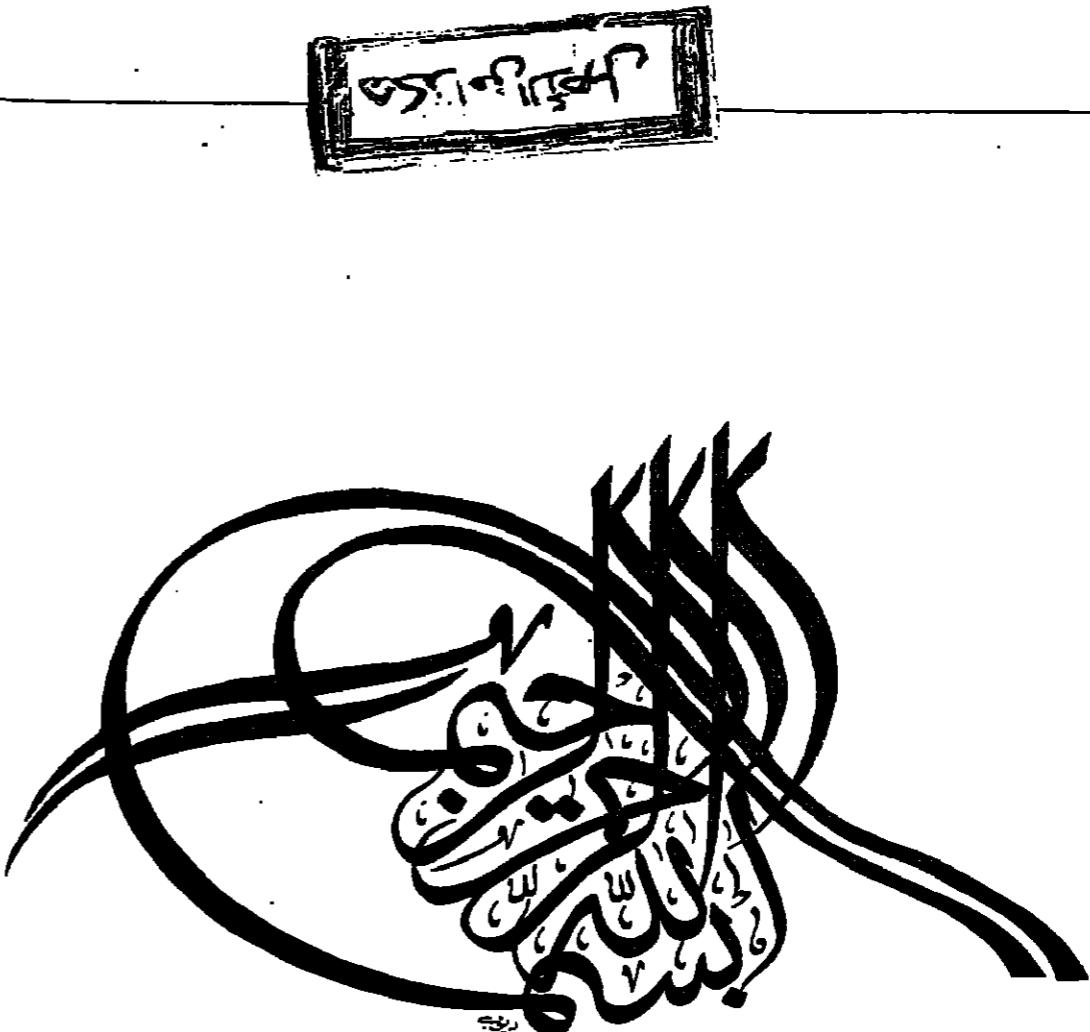
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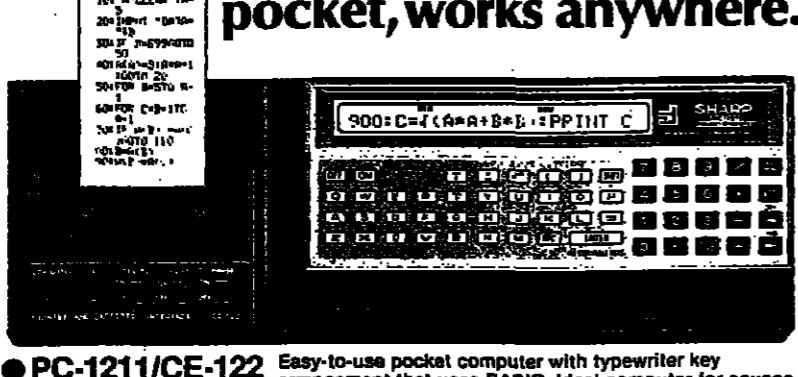
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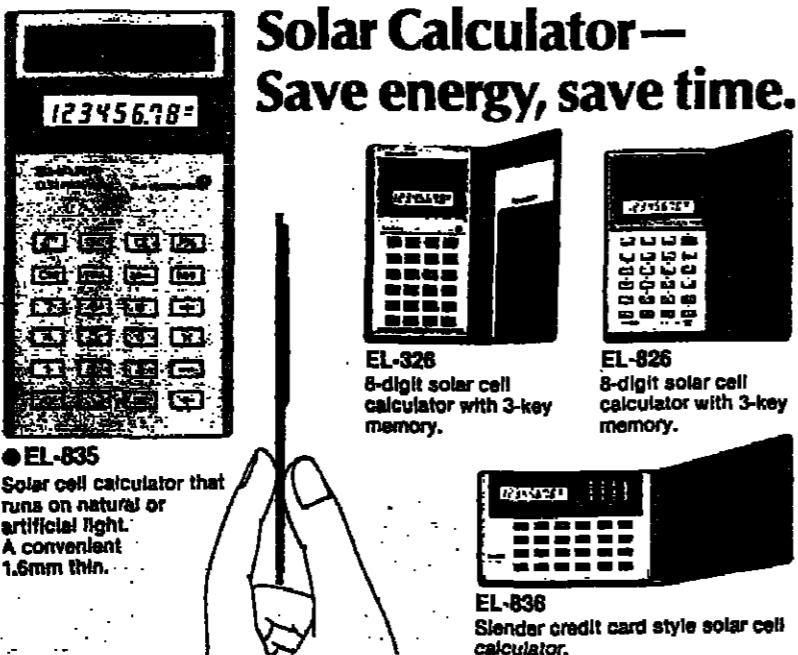
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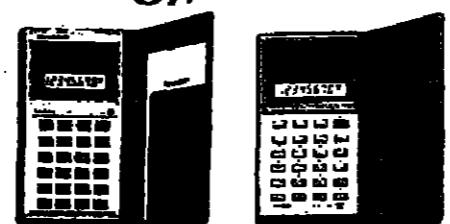
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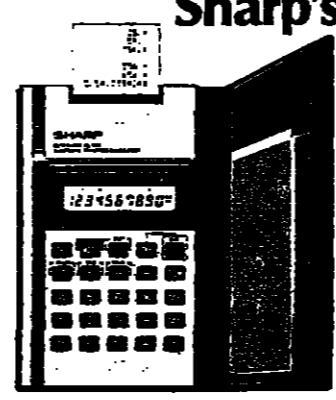


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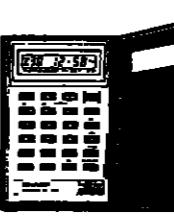
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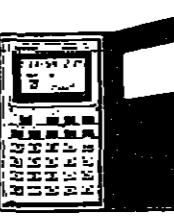
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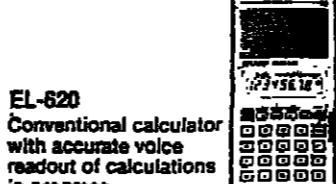


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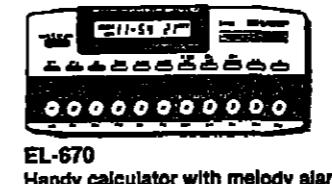
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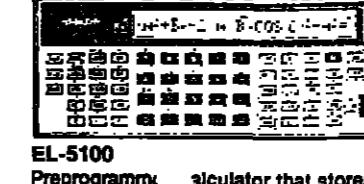


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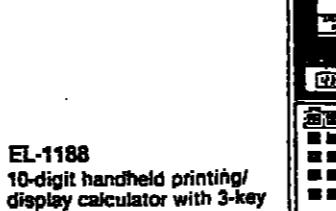


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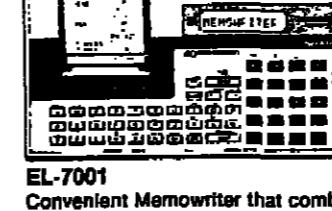


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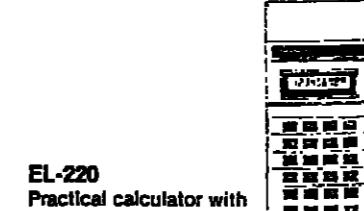
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N-weapons freeze 'unverifiable'

U.S. developing laser warfare

WASHINGTON, March 12 (AP) — The U.S. Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency is working vigorously on a space-based laser warfare system and has all the money it needs, the head of the defense department organization said.

Nearly \$150 million has been earmarked for space laser research in the proposed budget for the 1983 fiscal year, but there has been some sentiment in the U.S. Senate to boost this amount by as much as \$500 million to try to match reported progress by the Soviet Union in this field, the official said.

However, Robert Cooper, director of the agency, told the U.S. House of Representatives' Armed Services Research and Development Subcommittee: "I can assure you that we are moving that technology forward as rapidly as possible with the funds we

have today and that additional funding is not required...."

The laser weapon would shoot intense beams of light through space to destroy satellites that provide early warning of a missile attack. It is part of an overall military laser research program on which Cooper said the United States has spent some \$1.6 billion since the early 1960s.

Meanwhile, the Reagan administration said Thursday a U.S. Soviet nuclear weapons freeze would be unverifiable, kill hopes for a reduction in nuclear armaments and put the United States at a military disadvantage.

The statement by Richard Burt, director of the State Department's office of politico-military affairs, was in response to a bipartisan congressional resolution introduced Wednesday calling on the superpowers to

agree to a nuclear weapons freeze.

Burt's comments expanded on those made Wednesday in opposition to the proposal by Secretary of State Alexander Haig. "The president and his entire administration share the concern felt throughout the world as to the danger nuclear weapons pose for mankind," Burt told reporters.

"That is why in his Nov. 18 speech, the president proposed equitable and verifiable agreements which will not just freeze current nuclear and conventional forces but actually significantly reduce them," he said.

While the administration understands the spirit that motivates the freeze efforts, adoption of that position "would freeze the United States into a position of military disadvantage and dangerous vulnerability," Burt said.

He said Moscow's defense investments have far outpaced Washington's over the past decade. "While we exercised substantial restraint, the Soviet modernization efforts have produced new weapons, including new generations of intercontinental ballistic missiles, directly threatening our nuclear deterrent," he said.

The congressional resolution reflects spreading concern around the country over the continuing superpower military buildup. On Tuesday, voters attending 21 town meetings in New Hampshire endorsed a nuclear weapons freeze. Pro-freeze sentiment has been expressed in a number of state legislatures as well.

Burt said the administration "wants verifiable agreements that go beyond freezes to produce real reductions." The freeze proposal, which we don't believe is verifiable nor of course would it reduce nuclear weapons, is not only bad defense... it is also bad arms control."

Without the administration's strategic modernization program, there will not be a credible chance to negotiate a good strategic arms reduction agreement with the Soviet Union, he said.

On a related issue, the Soviet Communist Party newspaper *Pravda* charged Friday that the United States wants to use current intermediate-range missile reduction negotiations in Geneva to hide its plans to deploy new missiles in Europe. The U.S. position was "consciously directed not toward seeking an agreement, but toward the exact opposite goal," the newspaper said.

The duke told reporters he knew Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's embattled Conservatives will view his defection as a betrayal but "one has to be what one thinks is right." Roy Jenkins, one of the SDP's co-founders, declared: "It was a characteristically courageous decision. We're delighted to have him."

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Early poll in Spain said likely

MADRID, March 12 (Agencies) — Early elections appear increasingly likely in Spain, with persistent rumors that parliament is about to be dissolved, forcing the government to issue its second denial in just over a month.

On Jan. 26, Prime Minister Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, who took office 11 months earlier, admitted that he would have to call early elections as a last resort. He also made it clear he did not favor this solution. General elections are next due in Spain in March next year. Then three days later the government had to deny an imminent election, and reiterated the denial Wednesday.

But many observers believe that once safely over the hurdle of the trial of the alleged leaders of the February 1981 aborted coup, Calvo Sotelo might feel confident enough to call elections for June, immediately after elections to Andalucia's autonomous parliament, set for May 23. Others think the prime minister will take advantage of Spain's five-month summer parliamentary break to stay in office until November.

The latest setback for the government came on Thursday when it was defeated on a vote on autonomy for the Valencia region. Right-wing members of the ruling Democratic Center Party have threatened to withdraw support for the government, and with the breaking away last November of 10 deputies and six senators, Calvo Sotelo can now count on only 151 votes in the 349-seat parliament.

Meanwhile, a Spaniard who taught medicine at the National University in Mexico City has been arrested for alleged connections with the Spanish Basque terrorist organization ETA, police said Thursday. A police bulletin said Justo Ortega Esquerro, 37, admitted under questioning he was a member of Eri-Batasuna, the Basque terrorist movement also known as ETA.

The bulletin said Ortega Esquerro's physical appearance and antecedents coincide with those of the internationally sought terrorist "Carlos," but reported he had been identified as Basque and member of the ETA. Press reports in Mexico City speculated that the man was in fact Carlos, the Venezuelan-born French terrorist. But chief detective Fernando Sahagun Baca said it was not Carlos who had been arrested.

Ortega was originally arrested on a wife-beating complaint filed by his father-in-law Francisco Espana, the police said. But illegal possession of firearms and fake identity documents were later added to the charges against him. Sahagun Baca said police investigators found three pistols and a quantity of ETA propaganda. Ortega's possessions together with three forged passports.

Two of them were Mexican passports, allegedly issued in the Pacific coast resort of Zihuatanejo, and the third was Colombian.

According to the police bulletin, Ortega told authorities that he has visited the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, China and other Communist bloc countries, including Cuba on four occasions. He also claimed to have visited Portugal, Brazil, Colombia, El Salvador and Venezuela and said he had been arrested in France, England and Spain for his involvement in clandestine political activities, the bulletin said.

Kenya denies involvement in Seychelles coup attempt

NAIROBI, March 12 (R) — Kenya has denied fresh charges of involvement in last year's mercenary-led attempt to topple the Seychelles government and challenged President Albert Rene to produce some evidence. (See related story on page 20)

The government published a statement Friday accusing Rene of trying to pre-empt the outcome of a report from a United Nations commission of inquiry on the abortive coup. The commission was formed after a battle for Seychelles International Airport between white mercenaries and local troops last Nov. 25.

The statement followed an interview on Wednesday in which Rene was quoted as saying that Kenya's Minister for Constitutional Affairs Charles Njonjo and police chief Ben Gethi were deeply implicated in the plot. Denying any involvement in the affair, the

government's chief secretary, Jeremiah Kiereini, said: "The Kenya government has nothing to hide in the matter."

He added: "If President Rene has additional information available to him, it would only be fair for such information to also be made available both to the U.N. commission of inquiry as well as to the Kenya government."

Forty-three alleged mercenaries, accused by Seychelles authorities of taking part in an abortive coup there and then fleeing to South Africa, are on trial in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, charged with hijacking an Air-India airliner from Mahe to Durban. Allegations of Kenyan involvement in an attempt to overthrow the left-wing government of the Seychelles were first made by a mercenary captured in the Indian Ocean island archipelago after the fighting.

U.N. withdraws Asia survey

BANGKOK, March 12 (R) — A United Nations agency has bowed to pressure from three Communist governments and Burma and has withdrawn from circulation its annual economic survey of Asian and Pacific countries, diplomats said Friday.

The countries charged separately that the survey, prepared by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, was distorted, opinionated and incorrect. The survey covering countries from Iran in the west to the Pacific islands in the east was issued on March 7.

In a brief statement the agency said the survey, prepared for its annual ministerial conference, was being revised. Vietnam was "incensed" over the agency's reference to worsening economic "difficulties" caused by a Japanese firm, they said.

Mongolia took exception to an assertion that industrial growth last year fell short of planned targets and Burma disputed an assertion that its oil production fell in 1980 because of "mismanagement" of the fields by a Japanese firm, they said.

PHILADELPHIA HOLDUP: A policeman stands over the body of a slain mailman who walked into a tavern in Philadelphia Thursday. The tavern, Smokin' Joe's Corner, is owned by Joe Frazier, former heavyweight champion. Three persons, including the mailman, were killed in the holdup.

Only last month, Evans was named Britain's editor of the year in a list of television company awards. The 53-year-old son of an engine driver took over the prestigious editorship of *The Times* of London after editing its sister paper, *The Sunday Times*, for 17 years. After Evans said he had no comment on his future at the 187-year-old newspaper, some *Times* journalists were signing a petition on his behalf.

But other London morning newspapers reported that some long-serving *Times* journalists supported Douglas-Home, an old Etonian and nephew of former British Prime Minister Sir Alexi Douglas-Home.

The circulation of *The Times* has risen from 274,000 to more than 300,000 since Evans was appointed. He has steered the traditionally establishment newspaper toward a bolder approach to news. But there have been persistent reports of conflicts at the influential newspaper once dubbed "the thunder."

Last month Murdoch threatened to close both *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* unless trade union agreements on staff cuts had saved both *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* from closure.

The two newspapers have been losing 12 million sterling (nearly \$22 million) a year. Murdoch said Thursday that the closure threat had been lifted because of an agreement under which 360 workers at the newspapers would lose their jobs immediately and that by September a total of 1,000 jobs would have gone.

Times editor reportedly asked to quit

LONDON, March 12 (R) — Award-winning editor Harold Evans refused to comment on widespread press reports Friday that Australian press magnate Rupert Murdoch was pressuring him to resign from *The Times* newspaper. But while Evans produced Friday's edition of the newspaper from his first floor office, *Times* journalists said he was asked twice to resign but had refused. And, the journalists said Evans was refusing to let his deputy editor and rumored successor, Charles Douglas-Home, into his office.

Report of a fresh crisis at Britain's oldest daily newspaper appeared only hours after the new proprietor, Murdoch, said trade union agreement on staff cuts had saved both *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* from closure.

Murdoch, who installed Evans as editor a year ago after buying the *Times* newspapers from the Thomson Organization, flew to New York Thursday refusing to confirm or deny reports that he had dismissed him. "You must ask Harold Evans," Murdoch told reporters at London airport. "It's not for me to say anything. I'm not the one to ask."

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Vietnamese demand release of fishermen

BANGKOK, March 12 (AFP) — Vietnam Friday demanded the release of all Vietnamese fishermen and fishing boats held by China. A Vietnamese News Agency (VNA) communiqué monitored in this Thai capital referred to "repeated kidnappings" of Vietnamese fishing boats and their crews in "Vietnamese territorial waters."

The communiqué rejected a recent report in the Chinese People's Daily that a Vietnamese "spy" ship had been captured with ten sailors on March 4 near the disputed Paracels, a scattered island archipelago about equidistant from Vietnam and China.

China occupied most of the Paracels in 1974 shortly before the collapse of South Vietnam. Vietnam regards the occupation as illegal.

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Backlash of West's recession

Japan's GNP dips first time in 6 years

TOKYO, March 12 (AP) — Japan's real, or inflation-adjusted, gross national product (GNP) fell for the first time in six years during the last three months of 1981, the Economic Planning Agency (EPA) said Friday.

Faced with sluggish domestic demand and a recession among its Western trading partners, Japan's real GNP fell 0.9 percent in the October-December quarter compared to the previous quarter.

The last time real GNP dropped was during the January-March quarter of 1975, when the economy snagged on sharply rising oil prices.

EPAs officials said the worsening recession in the major industrial countries was the main

reason behind the drop, which had been anticipated. While domestic demand showed a growth figure of 0.4 percent, exports and other overseas factors represented a 1.3 percent negative growth during the period.

In the current fiscal year, the pace of growth of Japan's economy has been gradually slowing down. In the first quarter of the fiscal year, April-June 1981, GNP growth was at an annualized rate of 4.9 percent. This slowed to 0.6 percent in the second quarter and fell in the latest accounting period.

The government in January had pledged a 4.1 percent real growth in the current fiscal year ending March 31, but the latest statistics have made that goal an extremely difficult one to attain, officials have said.

N. Korea steps up oil search

TOKYO, March 12 (R) — North Korea, a country with no known oil deposits, is looking to offshore areas as a possible source of crude to reduce its dependence on imports from the Soviet Union and China, according to specialists monitoring developments there.

Analysts in Tokyo and a U.S. oil company executive say Yugoslav experts have been helping with the search, concentrated off the Korean peninsula's northwest coast.

This is to the east of Bohai Bay off China, where Chinese engineers are currently active in underwater drilling.

The Joint Research Center of International Relations (JRCIR), which has been publishing periodicals on North Korea since 1972, and which is headed by former Japanese ambassador to South Korea Augustin Masahide Kanayama, estimates that Pyongyang now imports four million tons of oil a year.

According to the institute, North Korea imports one million tons of crude and oil products from the Soviet Union and another one million tons of crude from China. The rest comes from Burma, Algeria, some Middle East countries and Iran, it says.

U.S. uranium industry's outlook dim

ABIDJAN, March 12 (R) — World airline chiefs were urged to cooperate to end fare wars which have cost their companies billions of dollars over the past two years.

The call came from International Air Transport Association (IATA) director-general Knut Hammarskjold at the opening of an executive committee meeting of the body grouping 116 airlines.

Speaking of current financial difficulties facing airlines, whose total cumulative losses are said by airline sources to have reached just under \$2.5 billion over the past two years, he said, "there must be cooperation among them" which is the main aim of our association.

"Our aim...is to coordinate on a vast scale our collective and individual efforts to reduce operating costs and increase our companies' financial returns," he said.

The sources said the 22-member executive committee was assessing a three year strategic plan to reduce operational costs on major routes and fill more seats.

Hammarskjold did not mention the fare war on north Atlantic routes but the sources said his message of increased cooperation was a plea to end the war which led to Britain's Laker Airways calling in a receiver last month.

The sources said the war has also spread to most European routes where airlines are competing to fill seats.

IMF records 5% increase in reserves

WASHINGTON, March 12 (AP) — The reserves, excluding gold, of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) members rose only by five percent last year, the smallest increase since 1973, the IMF has announced here.

In the latest issue of its monthly bulletin *IMF Survey*, the fund said the average annual growth rate of the reserves was 1.6 percent between 1974 and 1980. The survey showed that the total reserves at the end of last year stood at \$72,000 million Special Drawing Rights (about \$384,000 million).

Industrialized countries accounted for 185,200 SDR's (\$209,000 million), oil exporting countries for 80,000 million SDR's (\$90,400 million), and non-oil exporting developing countries for 69,500 SDR's (\$78,500 million).

The talks will also focus on U.S. efforts to stiffen economic and other sanctions against the Soviet Union and Poland over the imposition of martial law by the Polish government.

West European diplomats say both issues present major problems, and that there is now a wide "conceptual" Gulf between Washington and other NATO capitals over East-West trade.

President Reagan is holding up a decision on whether to enforce new sanctions over Poland until U.S. Undersecretary of State James Buckley returns from next week's consultations. U.S. and other Western officials say that, with little hope of getting all 15 NATO allies to agree on sanctions that really bite, the U.S. is now concentrating on making it tougher and costlier for Communist states to borrow hard currency.

This would be a shift in Western political strategy that some European politicians are reluctant to make.

For years the West has operated on the theory that East-West trade, apart from

To thwart military buildup

U.S. seeks allies' aid to tighten Soviet curbs

LONDON, March 12, (R) — Frustrated by lukewarm Western sanctions over Poland, the United States is seeking joint action to make the Soviet bloc dig deeper into scarce hard currency reserves.

The Reagan administration believes West European governments, eager for trade with the East, are indirectly helping a Kremlin military build-up by giving Moscow soft loans that allow funds to be diverted to armaments.

A U.S. mission is visiting Bonn, London, Paris, Rome and Brussels next week in hopes of tightening lending rules which allow Communist countries to borrow heavily in the West to help shore up their sagging economies.

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For years the West has operated on the theory that East-West trade, apart from

being profitable, had a political spinoff as a level in persuading Moscow to moderate its policies.

Reagan aides now say this assumption was torpedoed by Soviet intervention in Afghanistan in 1979 and by Soviet pressure on Poland, leading to martial law last December.

The combined Soviet bloc owes the West about \$80 billion and spends one-third of its export earnings on repayments and interest charges.

U.S. concern focuses primarily on the \$10 billion that West European banks plan to invest to help build a 2,800-mile (4,500 km) pipeline to carry Soviet gas to Western Europe. Administration economists believe the Soviet economy will get a powerful boost when it sells the 40 billion cubic meters of gas due to flow annually from Siberia, starting in 1984.

European diplomats say the U.S. now appears to have given up after a long effort to get West Germany, France, Italy and other Western countries to pull out of the project. West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, after talks in Washington this week, expressed confidence that Washington would learn to live with the pipeline.

Secretary of State Alexander Haig said afterward that the U.S. could do nothing to halt the pipeline, and that efforts to delay it would be damaging to Western alliance unity. But there is still a threat that Reagan, who has already banned U.S. equipment supplies for the pipeline, will try to stop European firms and European-based U.S. subsidiaries filling the gap by selling urgently-needed turbines and compressors.

French Foreign Trade Minister Michel Jobert says the pipeline could be held up for

two years if equipment is blocked. Other Western officials predict the U.S. will be forced to back off also on European equipment because of legal complications. The U.S. holds that Western Europe could become dangerously dependent on Soviet gas, and that Moscow's multi-million-dollar earnings from gas sales will help cushion the Soviet economy from strains caused by a recent military build-up.

Washington is pressing for closer long-term liaison so that no Western country gives Moscow preferred credit. It says French loans for the gas pipeline are "ridiculously soft" on terms roughly half the usual 10-11.25 percent interest rates.

The U.S. has already succeeded this year in getting other NATO nations to tighten controls on strategic exports. "It's in Western interests to keep the Soviet Union weak," a senior European-based U.S. diplomat says. But West German officials dispute the U.S. argument that cash earned by Moscow from trade is a military boon.

They say the Kremlin has dipped hard into export earnings and has had to seek extra credits to help pay for nearly two million tons of U.S. grain bought since mid-February. Although Reagan halted talks on a new grain agreement because of the Polish crisis, the Soviet Union is still free to buy stocks under an existing accord.

The president, who lifted a grain embargo imposed after Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, has said he will use this weapon again only if there is a much wider trade crackdown.

European diplomats claim there is virtually no chance of sanctions that could seriously hurt East-West trade unless the U.S. bans grain sales, and they do not expect this to happen.

Shell's earnings decline by 20%

LONDON, March 12 (R) — The Royal Dutch/Shell group, the world's second biggest oil company, announced that its net income fell by about 20 percent in 1981 although technical adjustments were made, performance was about the same.

Sir Peter Baxendell, vice-chairman of the managing committee, told a news conference Thursday, the results were satisfying in a year when demand for petrol and other refinery products plunged but crude oil costs were high.

The group, which employs 160,000 people, reported 1981 net income at 1,797 million sterling (\$3.18 billion) compared with 2,225 million sterling (\$4 billion) in 1980.

But when accounting adjustments were made for currency changes and the altered value of crude oil stocks, underlying income for 1981 worked out at 1,514 million sterling (\$2.72 billion), only slightly down on the 1980 figure of 1,585 million sterling (\$2.76 billion).

WFP plans food bank for Ethiopia

ADDIS ABABA, March 12 (AFP) — The World Food Program (WFP) is to set up a food security reserve for Ethiopia amounting to 180,000 tons over the next four years, reports here have said.

The WFP and the Ethiopian Relief and Rehabilitation Commission signed an agreement here Thursday paving the way for the establishment of emergency grain reserves in strategic locations throughout the country.

The plan aims at providing a temporary food bank in the event of grain shortages because of drought or other natural hazards.

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At OECD parley

West-U.S. policy row surfaces

PARIS, March 12 (AFP) — Sharp differences between the United States and its Western partners and Japan over economic policy, high interest rates and the gyrating dollar marked high-level monetary talks here on the eve of French President Francois Mitterrand's departure for Washington Friday.

They fell short of agreeing on a joint Western stand for upcoming discussions with developing nations on monetary problems, reliable sources suggested.

The "big seven" — Britain, Canada, France, West Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States — were all present when some of the key problems that have recently soured trans-Atlantic and trans-Pacific relations were, brought up in two high-powered monetary bodies that met here over the past two days.

Participants said growing Western European and Japanese concern over the external impact of the Reagan administration's economic policies, blamed for soaring interest rates and what is seen as an overvalued dollar, surfaced in discussions between senior treasury officials and central bankers in working party no. 3 (WP3) of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). The panel also comprises the Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland.

Sources said by now "customary" differences of emphasis between the U.S. and some of its key partners re-emerged when the same set of officials "changed hats" to meet as deputies of the finance ministers of the group of ten (G-10). This is the Western caucus in the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, where Belgium is seated instead of Switzerland.

Both meetings were indirectly part of the runup to the Versailles summit: The WP3 talks precede the mid-May OECD annual ministerial conference, and Thursday night's

G-10 session was part of efforts to clear the ground for IMF and World Bank talks that will bring together finance minister of rich and poor nations in Helsinki, Finland, around the same date.

Neither meeting held out much hope of any marked change in U.S. attitudes by the time Reagan meets his six partners at Versailles, senior European officials conceded. "There is a dominating economy. That's a reality," one of them commented in private.

The common complaint of America's partners in the secretive WP3 clearly was that the recovery they desperately need to turn the tide of mounting unemployment stands to be further delayed because U.S. policy puts

domestic concerns ahead of the realities of the much-quoted notion of global interdependence.

But the U.S. delegation head, Treasury Undersecretary Beryl Sprinkel, considers fighting inflation as the top priority, in the U.S. and elsewhere. He argued here that high interest rates, recession and unemployment have inflicted as much hardship on the U.S. as on others, and made it clear that President Reagan has no intention of changing tacks.

Developing nations are bound to join the Europeans in pressing for lower interest rates at the May 12-14 Helsinki monetary meetings, observers said. Their debt service burden has risen sharply in the past two years.

3-fold rise seen in coal output

GENEVA, March 12, (R) — World coal output will rise sharply, perhaps threefold, by the year 2000 and coal will then begin overtaking oil as the world's main energy source, an International Labor Organization (ILO) report said Friday.

The ILO coal mines committee said events in the energy market had unequivocally confirmed coal's importance as the primary energy fuel and the industry was being reborn. In early 1980, oil supplied over half the total energy needs of the main industrial nations, the report said.

By the turn of the century, oil's share would have dropped to about a third and coal would be accounting for 37 percent of the world energy supply. By the year 2030 oil's share would be down to about 18 percent, with coal accounting for between 33 and 38 percent.

The report said during the next 20 years world coal production should increase by 2.5 to three times and international coal trade by

10 to 15 times over the 1979 level. Developments in the combustion, gasification and liquefaction of coal would meanwhile, make the industry more environmentally acceptable.

The ILO forecast coal's share in the U.S. energy market would grow rapidly to meet 31 percent of total energy demands by the year 2000. Rapid growth of the industry was also predicted in both West and eastern Europe, Latin America and Asia.

"The eastern European and Asian countries now account for more than 50 percent of world coal use. By the year 2000 these countries expect to double their coal production, while endeavoring to develop other primary energy sources," it added.

London stock market

LONDON, March 12 — The market was mixed with an easier bias as the account ended on a quiet note, dealers said. The Financial Times index at 1500 hours was down 1.2 at 566.7.

Conventional government bonds ended between 1/4 and 1/2 point lower but dealers noted continued for index linked stocks, with the treasury two percent 2006 issue adding 3/4 points to 101 1/2 sterling.

In a dull oil sector, shell ended unchanged at 350 following Thursday's results. Gold shares resumed the downward trend as the bullion price touched another 2 1/2 year low during the morning while U.S. shares were randomly mixed.

Closing gold prices (in U.S. dollars per troy ounce):

London	323.37
Paris	326.54
Frankfurt	324.00
Zurich	322.50
Hong Kong	328.53

U.S. inflation at wholesale level drops

WASHINGTON, March 12 (API) — For the first time in six years, inflation at the wholesale level fell last month, dropping at an annual rate of 1.7 percent, the U.S. government said Friday.

The slide was driven by declining car, truck and energy prices, which recorded their largest monthly decrease since January 1976. Food prices, which analysts had expected to surge considerably, rose only 0.5 percent, well under the double-digit pace of January, the Labor Department said.

Its new producer price index said energy prices fell 1.8 percent in February, double the decline in January and the largest monthly drop since the 2.4 percent of January 1976.

The overall index for finished goods fell 0.1 percent last month, the first decline since the 0.2 percent decrease of February 1976, when food prices plummeted and the effects of the 1975 recession were still being felt.

ANKARA, March 12 (API) — Turkey and Japan signed a credit agreement Friday under which Japan will lend \$55 million to this Nato member country this year on concessionary terms.

According to an official announcement, the \$55 million is part of a \$100-million credit Japan will be extending to Turkey within the framework of a Western consortium to aid Turkey. The consortium has been active since 1980 when Turkey appealed to the Western nations for an aid package to help its recovery from a severe economic crisis. The loan is to be repaid in 25 years, including a seven-year grace period, at 4.25 percent interest.

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shares resumed the downward trend as the bullion price touched another 2 1/2 year low during the morning while U.S. shares were randomly mixed.

Singh made the statement at a meeting with Komatada Kondoh, vice-president of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI) in Osaka, western Japan.

Singh arrived in Tokyo Sunday for an eight-day visit to prepare for a meeting July 28-29 to discuss the possibility of forming

Despite EEC import ban

Canada persists in seal hunt

OTTAWA, March 12 (R) — Canada says West European calls for a ban on seal skin imports will not stop the controversial annual seal hunt which moved into top gear Friday.

"This is not the end of the seal hunt. We may have lost this battle in part but we haven't lost the war," Canadian Fisheries Minister Romeo Leblanc said after the European Parliament voted in Strasbourg Thursday in favor of a ban.

He said Canada was confident of averting a binding ban by the 10 European Economic Community (EEC) states and he refused to talk of retaliation against the valuable fishing in Canadian waters their trawlers enjoy.

Off Newfoundland, nine big sealing vessels, three from Norway and six from Canada, waited to start killing harp seal pups at dawn when the main hunt is due to begin among a

Regan assails Wall Street

WASHINGTON, March 12 (R) — U.S. Treasury Secretary Donald Regan has blamed Wall Street rather than government economic policies for keeping interest rates high.

In a sharp attack on Wall Street, where he was once a leading figure, Regan said financial markets were exacting "an uncertainty or volatility premium" on interest rates and expected more from President Reagan's economic program than from past administrations.

Wall Street doesn't believe us. The financial markets are holding the Reagan administration to a higher standard than was demanded of the Carter, Ford or Johnson administrations," he said.

The former head of the largest U.S. stock-brokering firm, Merrill Lynch, also lashed out at Wall Street and businessmen for calling on Congress to trim government budget deficits by raising taxes.

Regan spoke as Senate sources told reporters that Senator Robert Dole, a key Repub-

lican, had proposed that a fee of \$2 be imposed on each barrel of imported oil to help reduce the government deficit.

The sources said that Dole, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, was including the fee in a proposed package of tax increases designed to hold down the deficit. President Carter tried to impose a fee of \$4.62 a barrel in 1980 when Dole led a campaign that resulted in overwhelming rejection of the measure by Congress.

Treasury Secretary Regan said he was at a loss to explain why interest rates remained so high when inflation had been reduced.

Foreign Exchange Rates

	Quoted at 7.00 p.m. Thursday	SAMA	Cash	Transfer
Bahraini Dinar	9.05	9.08		
Bangladeshi Taka	—	15.40		
Belgian Franc (1,000)	—			
Canadian Dollar	—	283.00		
Deutsche Mark (100)	145.00	144.50		
Dutch Guilder (100)	132.75	132.35		
Egyptian Pound	3.44	3.85		
Emirates Dirham (100)	93.00	93.20		
French Franc (1,000)	56.75	56.40		
German Mark (1,000)	52.50	56.00		
Indian Rupee (100)	—	36.85		
Irani Rial (100)	—			
Italian Lira (10,000)	27.20	26.80		
Japanese Yen (1,000)	—	14.35		
Jordanian Dinar	9.93	9.86		
Kuwaiti Dinar	12.07	12.04		
Lebanese Lira (100)	71.75	71.45		
Moroccan Dirham (100)	57.75	60.50		
Pakistani Rupee (100)	—	31.25		
Philippines Peso (100)	—	41.56		
Pound Sterling	6.25	6.20		
Qatari Rial (100)	94.00	94.10		
Singapore Dollar (100)	—	161.00		
Spanish Peseta (1,000)	33.20	32.80		
Swiss Franc (100)	183.50	183.10		
Syrian Lira (100)	58.00	63.50		
Turkish Lira (1,000)	—	1,150		
U.S. Dollar	3,429	3,422		
Yemeni Rial (100)	75.00	74.90		

Selling Price
Gold kg. 37,000 36,800
10 Tolas bar 4,350 4,310
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			Jubail-18-3-82
WERRA EXPRESS	2405H	CONT.	31-3-82

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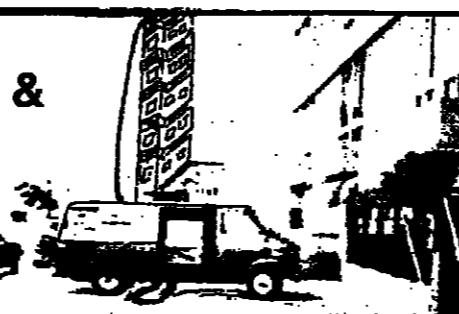
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MINO MARU	V-11	BULK	22-3-82
WAKANAMI MARU	V-18	GEN.	23-3-82
MUSASHI MARU	V-76	RORO	24-3-82
SEA SPEED AMERICA	V-10	RORO	24-3-82

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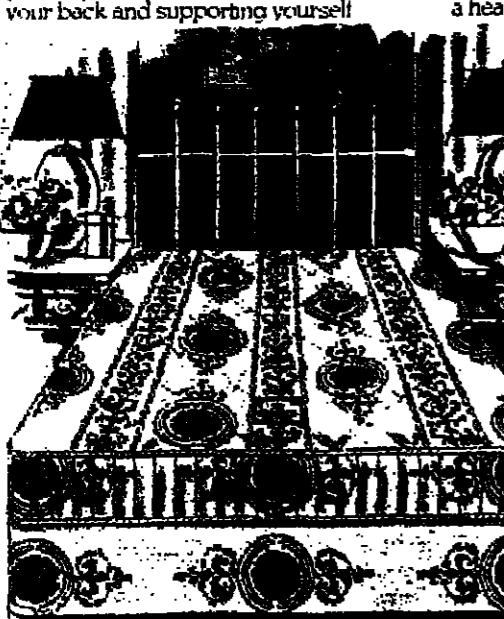
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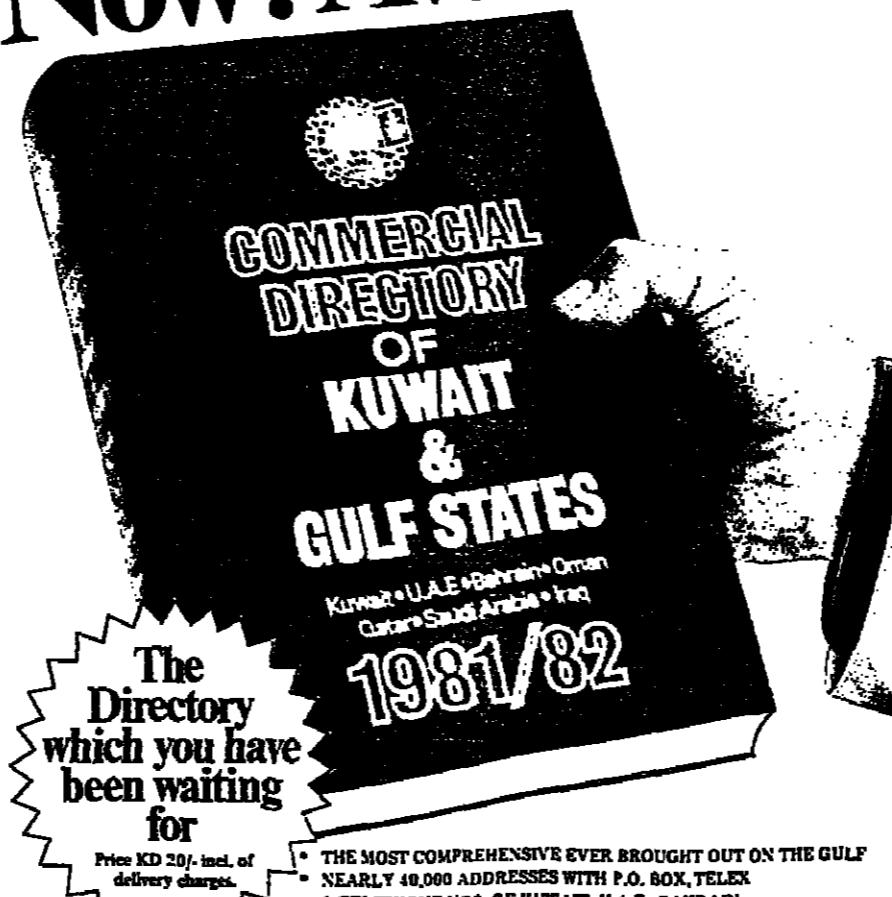
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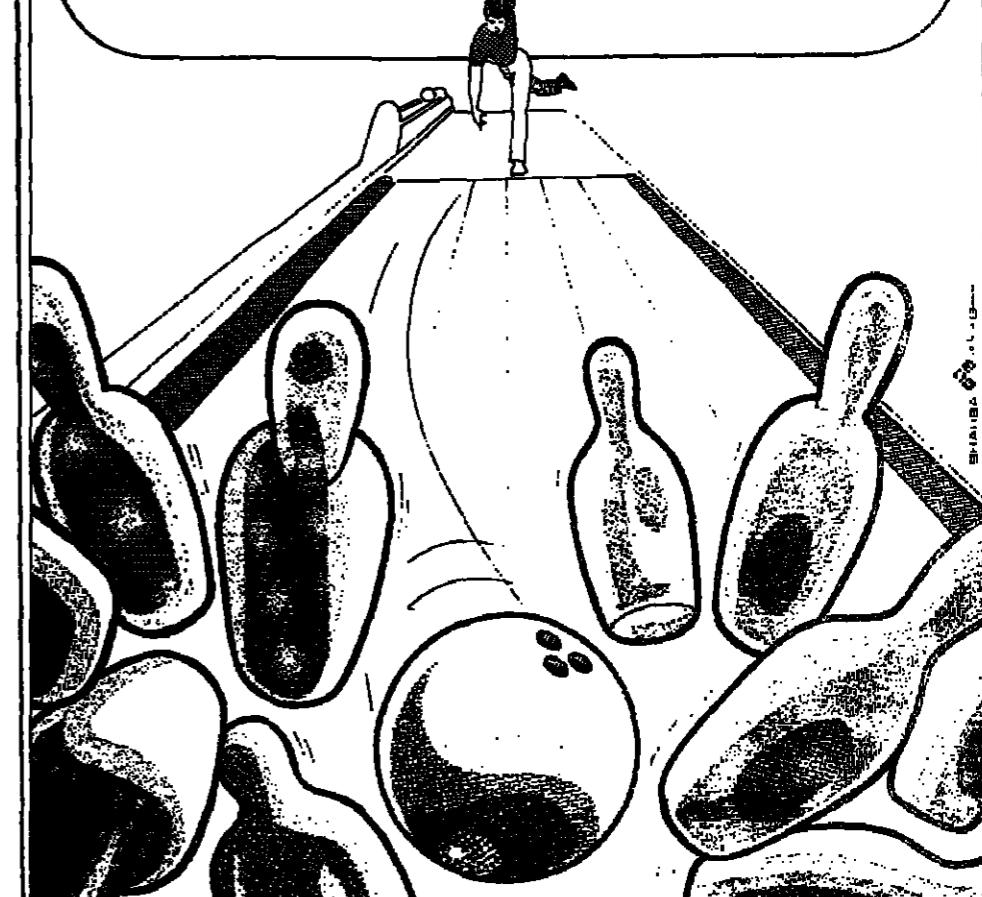
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In Liverpool's team

Thompson to replace Hansen

LONDON, March 12 (AP) — England international defender Phil Thompson Thursday was named to replace Alan Hansen in the Liverpool team to face Tottenham in the League Cup final soccer match at Wembley Stadium Saturday.

Thompson was included in the Liverpool lineup after Scottish international Hansen suffered a knee injury against Stoke City Tuesday night. "I feel desperately sorry for Alan but I lost my place through injury and now I have a chance to establish myself again," said Thompson, who has not played in the first team for two months.

Thompson said he would be nervous about making his first team comeback in such a big match. "The bigger the occasion, the better I like it," he said.

Tottenham Hotspur on the other hand, chasing four major titles, this season, has employed two leading sports psychologists to help its players cope with stress.

The psychologists have been working with Tottenham physiotherapist Mike Varney throughout the season and will talk to the north London soccer club's players before the match. "Basically, they help sportmen to prepare themselves for competition and deal with areas like stress and loss of form," Varney explained.

Tottenham manager Keith Burkinshaw said: "It is difficult to assess how much they have been. But if we didn't be of any help, they wouldn't be involved with team."

Tottenham currently is riding a 17-game unbeaten streak. The psychologists, John Syer and American Chris Connelly, have worked with a number of sportsmen in the United States.

Meanwhile, Bobby Charlton, the former England and Manchester United striker, has joined the football league team trying to brighten up English soccer. Charlton accepted an invitation to join his former Old Trafford manager Sir Matt Busby, and League secretary Graham Kelly, when they get down to work Thursday.

The advisory committee was proposed at the recent chairman's seminar, and Kelly explained that its brief is "to examine how to make the League game more exciting."

Soccer roundup

Serginho nets 2 for Sao Paulo

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil, March 12 (Agencies) — Serginho, probable starting center-forward in the Brazilian national soccer team's exhibition match against West Germany Mar. 21, scored two goals for Sao Paulo in its 5-2 victory over Ceara Thursday night.

Also scoring for Sao Paulo in the second round of the Brazilian National Club Championship, was Mario Sergio. Sao Paulo also played with national team defense Oscar and goalkeeper Waldir Peres.

But the three national team starters on Rio's Flamengo club — Zico, Junior and Leandro — were unable to overcome the rain-soaked field at Macarena, and managed only a 1-1 tie against International of Porto Alegre. Flamengo's goal was scored by Zico.

In other National Championship games, Guarani's Careca — mentioned as a possible replacement for Serginho as the national team's center-forward — scored three of his team's goals in its 4-3 victory over Maringa. Pele's former Club Santos lost 2-0 to Bangui in Rio, and Londrina beat Botafogo 3-1.

Meanwhile, Group Two favorites Algeria and Nigeria have contrasting tasks ahead of them in Saturday's African Soccer Championship ties in Benghazi.

World Cup finalists Algeria can look forward to a relaxed 90 minutes of shooting practice against luckless Ethiopia, but Nigeria, the African champions, face a tough task against Zambia.

The holders, beaten 2-1 by Algeria in their last outing, need at least one point to reach the World Cup, hopeful in next week's semifinals. Zambia were only beaten by a late goal against Algeria in their opening match and a repeat of that spirit showing could see them pip the Nigerians for a place in the last four.

Nigeria were a major disappointment against Algeria and were totally outclassed despite the narrow scoreline. The pressure will be on them and it will be interesting to see how they perform under pressure.

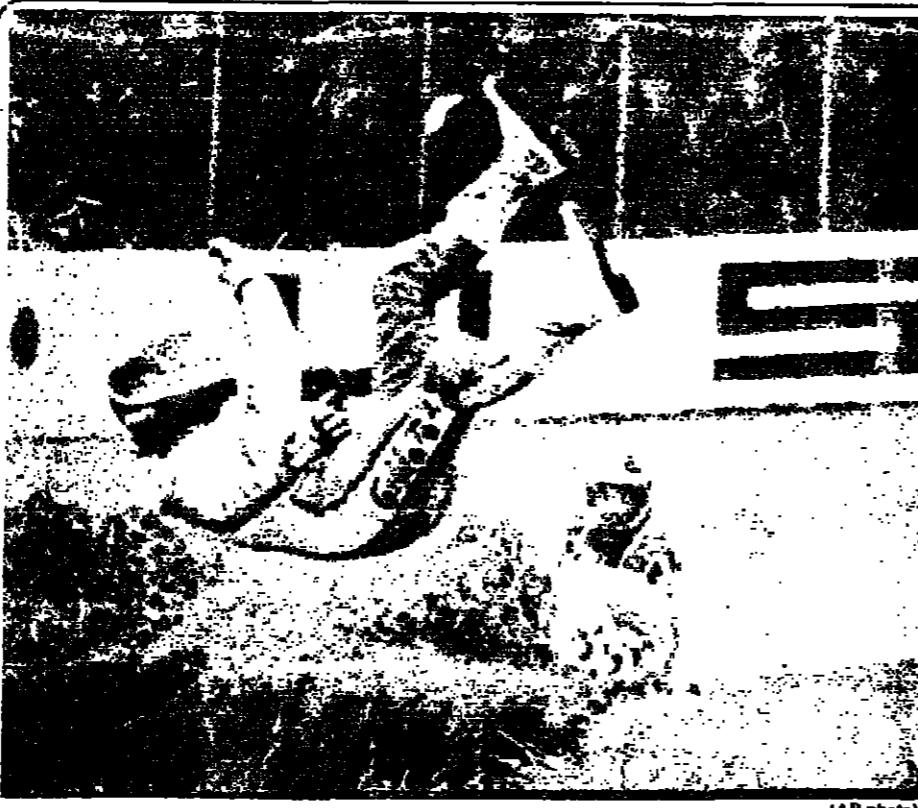
The impressive Algerians should have little trouble in completing the group with a 100-percent record against Ethiopia, who have already been beaten 3-0 by Nigeria and 1-0 by Zambia. The Ethiopians have neither the skill nor the physique to disturb Algeria, although they will be hoping for a face-saving result before they return home.

English First Division soccer club Arsenal hopes to sign Yugoslav international striker Vladimir Petrovic. Arsenal manager Terry Neill said Thursday.

Neill returned to London Thursday after talks with Petrovic's club, Red Star Belgrade. "I can't deny that I have been to Belgrade and that I have spoken with Red Star and the player concerned," said Neill. "But to say anything further would be premature."

Dinamo Zagreb beat bottom club Terek Tetrovo 4-1 to maintain their lead at the top of the Yugoslav First Division. Partizan Belgrade beat Osijek 1-0 in the only other First Division soccer match Thursday to move into fourth place on 26 points, five points behind Dinamo.

Red Star Belgrade are second on 28 and Zeljeznicar Sarajevo third with the same points as Partizan. All have played 22 games.



MISBAP: Eduardo Aleman of Venezuela goes over the bales of hay after he lost control on his Yamaha during the 100-mile Formula Two race at the Daytona International Speedway recently. Tom Schubert (35) coming into the turn was also involved in an accident.

Asian Cup Hockey

China shocks Malaysia

KARACHI, March 12 (AP) — China, the new entrants to international (field) hockey, shocked Malaysia 2-1 while favorites Pakistan and India forged ahead on the opening day of the inaugural Asian Cup (Field) Hockey Tournament here Friday.

World champions Pakistan routed low-ranking Sri Lanka 14-0, while Olympic champions India shut out Bangladesh 6-0.

The seven-nation tournament is played according to International Hockey Federation rules and is patterned after the European and Intercontinental Cup tournaments. Participants of the tournament are India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Singapore and China.

In Olympia Golf

Coles takes one-stroke lead

CITY OF INDUSTRY, California, March 12 (AP) — Janet Coles, playing the final five holes in the rain, shot a 3-under-par 70 Thursday to take the first round lead in the \$150,000 Olympia Gold Women's Golf Tournament.

She held a one-stroke lead over Marlene Floyd-Dearman, Martha Hansen and Chris Johnson after 18 holes of the 72-hole event. Patty Sheehan, the LPGA's 1981 rookie of the year, and Juli Inkster, the reigning two-time women's national amateur champion, were another stroke back with opening 73s.

Although the rain continued through most of the afternoon, it was never heavy enough to halt play in the event, which had its final two rounds washed out by torrential rains in 1981.

The first two rounds of the tournament are being played on two courses, the 6,006-yard Eisenhower and the 5,983-yard Zaharias, both of which play to par 36-37 — 73. The final two rounds will be played on the longer course.

The course, and perhaps the weather, took a toll on a number of the favorites in the tournament. Nancy Lopez-Melton struggled to a 78, with a 42 on the front nine. Sally Little, whose 71-71 last year was the winning score in the rain-shortened tournament.

Cook survived being dropped three times to pile up 59 runs. Richards was England's only victim in the first four hours of play, slapping an easy shot to Dennis Amis at silly mid-off on 66. At tea, Cook and Peter Kirsten, an undefeated 24, had featured in a 40-run unbroken second-wicket stand.

The Springboks got off to a slow start in their first international match in 12 years Friday, but openers Jimmy Cook and Barry Richards managed to take 75 for no wicket by lunch.

After South Africa won the toss and elected to bat, Cook failed to touch a single ball delivered by Les Taylor in the opening over. After 40 minutes Cook and Richards had scored only 18 runs. But the two warmed up quickly after that, with Richards turning in a creditable 45 with seven boundaries by the break, while Cook had hit 23 runs with two boundaries. Seven extras brought the total to 75 for the Springboks.

BRIEFS

MOSCOW, (R) — Vladimir Salnikov, winner of three gold medals at the 1980 Olympics, lopped almost a second off the men's 400 meters freestyle world record Friday. Salnikov, competing for the Soviet Union in a swimming international against East Germany, clocked three minutes 19.57 seconds to beat the previous best of 3:50.49 set by Canadian Peter Bamford almost two years ago. East German Jorg Woitko improved his European record for the 100 meters freestyle, winning in 49.95 seconds. He had a previous best of 50.14.

LAS VEGAS, Nevada, (AFP) — Dwight Braxton of the United States will defend his World Boxing Council (WBC) light-heavyweight title against compatriot Jerry Martin here on March 21. Braxton became world champion when he scored a surprise victory over fellow-American Mathew Saad Muhammad last December. Martin is ranked No. 7 in the world and has a record of 20 victories against three defeats.

JASNA, Czechoslovakia, (AFP) —

McEnroe pulls out of Belgian tourney

Moor struggles to down Gullikson

MUNICH, West Germany, March 12 (AP) — Terry Moor of the United States beat his fellow countryman Tom Gullikson 7-6, 7-6 in the second round of the \$300,000 Munich World Championship Tennis Tournament here Thursday.

During the first round, seeded players Guillermo Vilas, Sandy Mayer, Eddie Dibbs and Mark Edmondson made their exit from the competition.

In another second round match, Johan Kriek of South Africa record an easy 6-2, 6-3 win over America's Van Winitsky while Vijay Amritraj of India got the better of Peter Rennert of the U.S. 6-3, 1-6, 7-5. Amritraj, India's Davis Cup pride, won the first set with a degree of comfort, but was seen in poor light in the next in which he managed just one point. However, the lanky Indian pulled himself together in the ext to come out victor.

In yet another match, Czechoslovakia's Tomas Smid struggled to down Peter Eiter of West Germany 6-3, 4-6, 6-2.

Meanwhile, Australia's Rod Frawley recorded to beat Dick Stockton of the United States 5-7, 6-4, 6-4 in a second round match at the Linz Grand Prix Tennis tournament in Austria Thursday. Frawley lost the first set at 5-7, but came back powerfully in the next two

which he won with an identical margin.

John McEnroe, the world's No. 1 tennis player, withdrew from the Belgian Indoor Championship Friday after he injured his left ankle in a training session.

Andrea Richard, a championship official, said McEnroe, the tournament's No. 1 seed, was hurt during a workout with his U.S. doubles partner, Peter Fleming.

"We think it is just a sprain. But it is bad enough for him to withdraw from the tournament. He cannot put his weight on his ankle," Richard added. He said he was taken to a Brussels hospital for X-rays.

In London tennis officials still are working on ways to avoid forcing Bjorn Borg this season to qualify for Wimbledon and the French Open Championships, but no final decision will be made until April.

The Swedes has refused to sign a commitment to play a minimum of 10 tournaments and according to Grand Prix rules this means he has to qualify for major tournaments including Wimbledon, which he has won five times.

The management committee of the All-England Championships discussed the problem Thursday night, but reached no conclusion. There will be further discussion when European tournament directors meet in

As Pakistan crushes Sri Lanka

Mohsin, Miandad shine

KARACHI, Pakistan, March 12 (AP) — Pakistan beat Sri Lanka by eight wickets to win the first one-day cricket international at the National Stadium Friday with more than three overs to spare.

Batting first, Sri Lankans collected 171 for three in 33 overs, as half an hour's play was lost due to disturbances and the number of overs were curtailed from 40 to 33.

Needing 172 to win in 33 overs, at an average of a little over five runs per over, Pakistan collected the required runs in 29.2 overs.

The highlight of the day was a brilliant 77 by skipper Waranpura, and later a delightful 85 Mohsin Khan who had come in place of Rizwan Uz Zaman, and an equally splendid 56 not out by skipper Javed Miandad.

Mohsin's knock included 9 fours, and Miandad in his 56 had 4 four and two glorious sixes. Police had to fire teargas shells earlier to disperse crowd from coming onto field during play. Miandad, winning the toss, sent Sri Lankans to bat and Tahir Naqash and Jalaluddin, who won his Pakistan cap Friday, started brilliantly, both bowling to a nagging line and length.

Skipper Waranpura and Sadiq Wettimuny, opening for the tourists, were shaky in the

beginning and Jalaluddin struck early for Pakistan with a slower full toss that pierced through the defense of Wettimuny to uproot his off stump.

At the score five for one, Roy Dias joined his captain and two more the Pakistan bowling to pieces, playing attractive strokes all round the wicket. Both looked like specialists of one-day cricket and their attacking game was thoroughly enjoyed by the 30,000 strong holiday crowd. After lunch, Pakistan opened through Mansoor and Mohsin and they soon went for the target of 172 in 33 overs.

The opening pair realised 52 in 10 overs but at this score Mansoor, attempting a big hit, was bowled by Wijesooriya, the left arm-spinner, playing his first match in Pakistan.

Miandad, promoted himself in batting order to join Mohsin. It was a good change and Miandad lifted Wijesooriya over the long boundary for the first six of the match. Two overs later, Mohsin took 13 runs in one over of the same bowler and Pakistan's score had galloped to 105 in 19 overs.

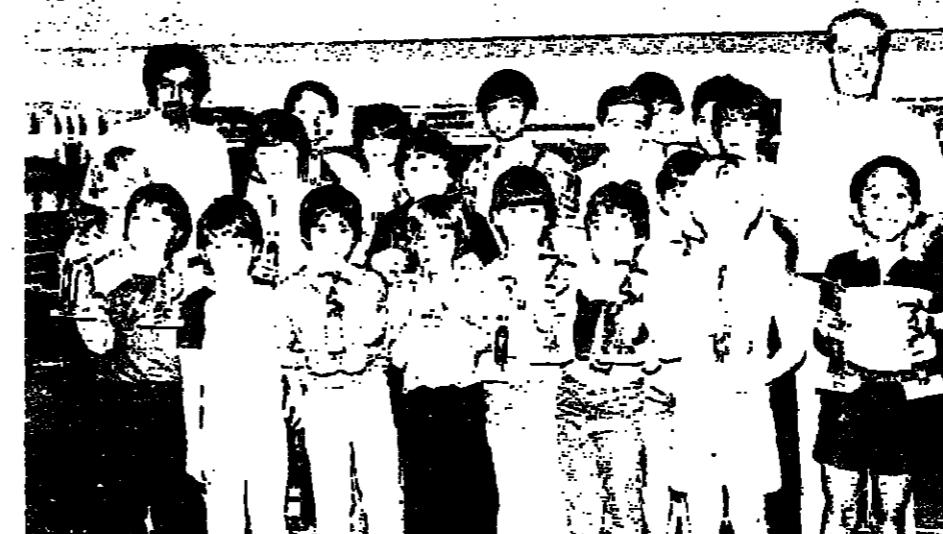
Mohsin-Miandad partnership yielded 105 extremely quick runs. The two teams fly to Faisalabad for the second Test, starting March 14.

Close race for top honors in Jeddah bowling

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH, March 12 — With only a month to go in all bowling leagues at the Jeddah Bowling Center, the race for top honors is still on.

Last week all the top teams won 4-0, but



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As he leads Belgium to Spain

Moer's mastery may mesmerize many

BRUSSELS, March 12 (R) — Millions of armchair soccer fans will get their first look at the remarkable Wilfried Van Moer when he captains Belgium against holders Argentina in the opening match of the World Cup in Barcelona on June 13.

Many may wonder what all the fuss is about. Van Moer is not a small-screen hero. A stocky, balding, 37-year-old, he does not look much like a footballer. He rarely breaks out of a sedate trot, he always appears to be hovering on the edge of the action, and, more often than not, he only plays for about 60 minutes before being substituted.

Only those in the Nou Camp Stadium in Barcelona will be able to appreciate his talents to the full. Van Moer is the grand master of the unexpected. Despite his apparent lack of pace he floats away from his marker like a ghost, gliding past defenders with nonchalant ease before releasing perfectly-weighted passes of radar accuracy.

Television viewers do not always see the best of Van Moer. The unpredictable pass which wrong-foot an opposing defender is just as likely to leave a hapless TV crew focusing their camera elsewhere.

It is no coincidence that Belgium have enjoyed the triumphs years since Van Moer's return after a series of lengthy injuries. His comeback to the international scene has a fairytale quality about it that has captured the imagination of every Belgian and cast him as the hero of the revival of the "Red Devils."

Van Moer was out of the Belgian side for four years after breaking his leg four times between 1972 and 1976. Manager Guy Thys only lured him back after much persuasion. Thys describes his decision to recall the little midfield general in 1979 as "A decision that

paid off." He returned to score a crucial goal in Belgium's 2-0 victory over Portugal which did much to book their place in the eight-nation playoffs for the 1980 European Championship in Italy.

Another goal and fine display in the next match against Scotland, which Belgium won 2-0, meant Van Moer was back in the team to stay. In Italy, he became a familiar sight at the heart of the Belgian side as the "Red Devils" surprised everybody by going all the way to the final before losing to West Germany by a last-minute goal.

Van Moer's brilliant form continued into the World Cup qualifying ties. Never hurried and always at hand when needed, he was a continual inspiration as Belgium emerged from a tough group which included France, the Netherlands and Ireland, to become the first side apart from hosts Spain and Argentina to gain a place in the finals.

His best years appeared to be behind him when he returned on a free transfer in 1978 to play for Beveren — the side he first joined as

15 caps.

Television fans are advised to watch closely.

Middleton stars in Bruins' win

NEW YORK, March 12 (AP) — Boston Bruins were in a rampaging mood Thursday night.

Displaying speed and skill in the National Hockey League match against the Winnipeg Jets, the Bruins scored seven times to chalk up a 7-4 victory. And the man to spearhead the Bruins was Rick Middleton. Middleton scored three goals with Peter McNab and Keith Crowder chipping in two each as the Bruins jumped into the second place in the Adams Division.

In the other two action of the night, New York Rangers got the better of Detroit Red

Wings 4-1, while Calgary Flames downed Vancouver Canucks 6-3.

The Red Wings fared poorly in its home tie, as the Rangers stormed into the lead with first period goals through Rob McClanahan and Marc Pavelich. Both were teammates in the gold-medal winning U.S. Olympic team two years ago. The Rangers stayed in front thereafter, never seriously threatened by the Red Wings.

Jamie Higlop's fluke goal with 9:17 remaining snapped a tie and triggered a four-goal outburst — including another one by Higlop — that carried the Flames past the Canucks.

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Raider implicates S. Africa officials in Seychelles coup bid

PIETERMARITZBURG, South Africa, March 12 (AP) — A mercenary leader said seven or eight senior South African government officials were involved in an attempt to overthrow the Seychelles islands government in November, a South African security officer testified Friday.

Lt. Col. Jacob Mouton said Briton Peter Duffy, 40, of Durban, South Africa, made the remark during negotiations at Durban airport Nov. 26 after 43 accused mercenaries had landed in an Air-India plane, along with 65 passenger-hostages and 14 crew members. The men are charged with four counts of hijacking the plane to escape after fighting broke out at Seychelles airport and the coup failed.

Mouton, on the third day of the Supreme Court trial, testified that Duffy "told me this is a very serious business. He said, 'We tried to overthrow the Seychelles government but it was unsuccessful. This government (South Africa) is also concerned. There are seven or eight senior members of the government involved.'"

Natal province Deputy Attorney General H.G. Klem did not ask Mouton to elaborate. After the testimony, both prosecution and defense lawyers asked for a recess to confer privately, saying some matters at stake should not be discussed in open court.

Most of the defendants have permanent homes or business links in South Africa, and many have served in military units in South Africa or Rhodesia, the British colony that became independent as Zimbabwe. Their leader was said to be Col. Michael "Mad Mike" Hoare, a 36-year-old Irish resident of South Africa, who gained fame for mercenary exploits in the Congo in the 1960s.

The defendants pleaded innocent to hijacking the Boeing 707 jet when the trial opened Wednesday. South Africa's white-

minority government has denied accusations by neighboring Black African countries that South Africa was involved in the plot to overthrow Socialist President Albert Rene of the Seychelles, an Indian Ocean archipelago.

Mouton said Duffy also told him 13 or 14 of the alleged hijackers were members of the South African second reconnaissance regiment, a crack special services unit.

On Thursday, the government issued a statement from South African military officials saying that none of the accused who had military ties was on active duty at the time of the coup attempt.

The statement was seen as an attempt to dissociate the government from the plot. Some of the mercenaries reportedly used army call-up papers to get time off from work.

Mouton said Duffy told him at Durban airport he had a request to make — that an airplane be made available so the alleged hijackers could take off again after freeing the hostages and crew. Mouton said he conferred with other security officials at a nearby airport building and then returned to tell Duffy the request was denied. "They accepted it when I told them," Mouton said.

Asked who was in charge of the Air-India aircraft after it landed at 4:58 a.m., Mouton said, "it was undoubtedly certain that Duffy and his comrades were in control of the aircraft." He described relations between the crew and the accused men as "friendly but cautious," and "I won't say it was a strained atmosphere."

Mouton said the only demand that Duffy made involved the body of a mercenary aboard the plane, apparently killed in fighting at the Seychelles airport. Mouton said Duffy told him, "this body goes with us wherever we go. We are not leaving him here."

S. Africans 'allowed' into U.S.

NEW YORK, March 12 (AP) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan's administration has quietly eased its policy of not allowing high-ranking South African military officials into the country on official business, *The New York Times* reported Friday.

Quoting unidentified State Department officials, the *Times* said the move was made in order to help negotiations toward the independence of Southwest Africa from South Africa.

The officials were quoted as saying that senior South African officials have come to the United States in recent months as part of delegations that have met with Chester A. Crocker, assistant secretary for African affairs.

The most recent meeting, the officials said, took place at the State Department on Feb. 22 and 23. Brand G. Fourie, the senior civil servant in the South African Foreign Ministry, was accompanied by military officials including Lt. Gen. P.W. Van der Westhuizen, chief of staff for intelligence in the South African defense forces.

Colombia campaign turns violent

BOGOTA, March 12 (AP) — Violence has erupted into a hitherto peaceful legislative election campaign in Colombia, one of Latin America's most stable democracies, as authorities impose new security measures to safeguard the vote.

Left-wing guerrillas threatening to "sabotage" the elections due next Sunday went on the offensive only days before, car-bombing the presidential palace in the capital and attacking government troops further south.

The guerrillas, of the Movement of April 19 (M-19), left a car packed with explosives outside the palace of liberal President Julio Cesar Turbay Wednesday. The blast killed a bystander and injured five other persons.

The guerrillas said the bombing was in retaliation for the shooting a day earlier by a right-wing vigilante group of lawyer Jorge Enrique Cipagauta Galvis, who had defended a number of captured M-19 guerrillas.

The underground movement "Death to Kidnappers" (MAS) which is waging a clandestine war on guerrillas and kidnappers, claimed responsibility for the killing. The

guerrillas, meanwhile, have rejected President Turbay's second offer of conditional amnesty, and are demanding a general amnesty, an end to martial law and negotiations with the government.

Twice this week M-19 columns have attacked villages near the Ecuador border killing several policemen. Fighting has raged between guerrillas and regular soldiers in a remote mountainous region of the south, and reports in Bogota say about 30 guerrillas had been killed.

At the same time a guerrilla commando seized nearly one ton of dynamite from a worksite in Western Colombia. Several universities have also been closed because of disturbances involving extremists.

The authorities have proclaimed a state of emergency in the country's second largest city, Medellin, where fighting between rival bands of drug smugglers has left 100 dead since the beginning of this year.

The government has mobilized security forces to guarantee the freedom of Sunday's election, which is seen as a kind of "primary" for a presidential election due in May.

March 21 set as Afghanistan day

STRASBOURG, France, March 12 (AP) — The Council of Europe Friday called on its 21 member countries to commemorate March 21 as Afghanistan day.

The council urged the parliaments and governments of the member states to mark March 21 as "Europe's own Afghanistan day" by which our peoples express their warm sympathy and support for the people of Afghanistan and their desire to see the establishment of a free and independent Afghanistan."

Several council committees are currently examining the possibility of the Council of Europe providing a framework for the organization of an international conference aimed at finding a solution to the Afghan crisis.

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International



SWISS MASKS: Pro-Solidarity trade union demonstrators in Berne Thursday carry masks of (from left) Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev, Polish head of state Gen. Jaruzelski and U.S. President Ronald Reagan. The posters protest the imposition of martial law in Poland and the U.S. support to the El Salvador junta.

U.N. official to tour Poland Security talks winding up

MADRID, March 12 (Agencies) — Neutral Switzerland formally proposed Friday that the Europe security review conference, deadlocked over the Polish crisis, should be adjourned until Nov. 9, conference sources said.

But Soviet bloc delegations at the 35-state conference, in session here sporadically since November 1980, withheld a decision on the adjournment proposal until the end of Friday's plenary session, the sources said.

Delegates said there was little doubt that the adjournment would be agreed later after all the listed speakers had delivered their prepared statements. When the plenary session opened, 15 delegations were down to speak and the meeting was expected to last throughout the day.

The United States and its NATO partners, which have refused to negotiate on new detente proposals at the conference while the military crackdown persists in Poland, back the neutral proposal for a long cooling-off period until next autumn.

The Soviet Union and its allies have insisted that they are ready to continue the detente talks in Madrid, although Western officials said earlier this week they had a firm gendeman's agreement with the East bloc on an adjournment.

Meanwhile, former Irish Foreign Minister Sean MacBride, currently U.N. commissioner on Namibia, said in Copenhagen Friday he and the secretary-general of the Swedish section of Amnesty International, Thomas Hammarberg, hoped to travel to Poland next week. He added that besides seeing the detained Solidarity leader Lech Walesa, they hoped to be allowed to tour detention centers.

In an unrelated development, the former

Bulgaria denies help to Dozier kidnappers

ROME, March 12 (AP) — The Bulgarian Embassy has denied statements attributed to a captured Red Brigades leader that the Communist country offered help to the terrorists holding a kidnapped American general.

Antonio Savasta, leader of the gang that kidnapped Brig. Gen. James L. Dozier, was quoted as telling police that some Eastern countries, including Bulgaria, were interested in the kidnapping of Dozier and ready to help with arms and money."

The statement, published by the leading *Corriere Della Sera* of Milan, was one of a series of alleged "confessions" by Savasta since his arrest Jan. 28 when police rescued Dozier from a Red Brigades "people's prison" in Padua.

wife of Polish Deputy Premier Mieczyslaw Rakowski was quoted in Hamburg Friday as saying she will settle down in West Germany and use her musical talents "to contribute to freedom" in her homeland. Wanda Wilkomirska, an internationally known violinist, was quoted by the magazine *News Review* as saying she would not take German citizenship but would live in this country as a "stateless Pole."

She added that she did not want to comment on the internal situation in Poland but that through her music she wanted to contribute to freedom there. Wilkomirska decided earlier this month not to return to Poland from a concert tour of Western Europe.

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In an unrelated development, the former

Surinamese claim foiling coup attempt

THE HAGUE, March 12 (AFP) — The Surinamese Embassy at The Hague said Friday that the military coup launched Thursday in Surinam had failed.

In a communiqué, the embassy said: "The actions of rebel soldiers led by (former Lt. Surendre) Rambocus and (Sgt. Maj. Wilfried) Hawker (to overthrow the national military Council) have failed. Supreme Cmdr. (Lt. Col. Desi) Bouterse is in complete control of the military situation. There is no reason for the civil population to be concerned."

The communiqué was published several hours after head of state Lt. Col. Bouterse said on Surinamese radio and television that Sgt. Maj. Hawker, one of the attempted coup's leaders, had been arrested. Col. Bouterse also said the other coup leader Lt. Rambocus was still at large with about 100 rebels in the Memre Bockoe barracks but that their surrender was only a matter of time.

Sgt. Maj. Hawker was seized when government forces stormed the Memre Bockoe barracks in Paramaribo, from where the rebels had launched their coup, according to reports.

In a broadcast message, Sgt. Maj. Hawker confessed to being under arrest and urged his fellow coup leader, Lt. Rambocus, and his followers to surrender to avoid bloodshed, reports said. Sgt. Maj. Hawker and Lt. Rambocus were among soldiers who helped Lt. Col. Bouterse seize power from Henk Arron in February, 1980. Arron had been in power since Surinam's independence in November, 1975.

Sgt. Maj. Hawker failed in an earlier coup attempt against Col. Bouterse in March, 1981. Col. Bouterse strengthened his position last Feb. 4 by sacking his prime minister for opposing plans to postpone general elections indefinitely.

Good Morning

By Jibril Al-Khazraji

A spot of counterpropaganda: Ask anyone in the West what's the first to cross his mind as you say "conspicuous spending" or "sudden riches", and he'd say without hesitation, "Arabs." Westerners, you see, don't realize they live in glass houses; that moats and beams are distributed more or less equally among eyes. If they did, the world would be a happier place — but there, you're human nature...

Now it's essential not to go overboard over this. There's no denying that a few barrels of oil have been scraped from these lands and found their way to other shores with sums of money changing hands as a result, leading here and there, to what can be called, for the sake of argument, "conspicuous consumption." That we have to accept.

But have you heard of the small Texan town, village, really, called Midland? I certainly never had until recently.

This little place is situated right on top of Texas' greatest oil field, and the way the people live there shows it. In a population of around 85,000, the town boasts of no less than 2,500 millionaires. The ratio of Rolls Royce cars to the number of people is said to be the highest in the world. And people there are said not to have a second car, but a little airplane, to use for purposes of shopping.

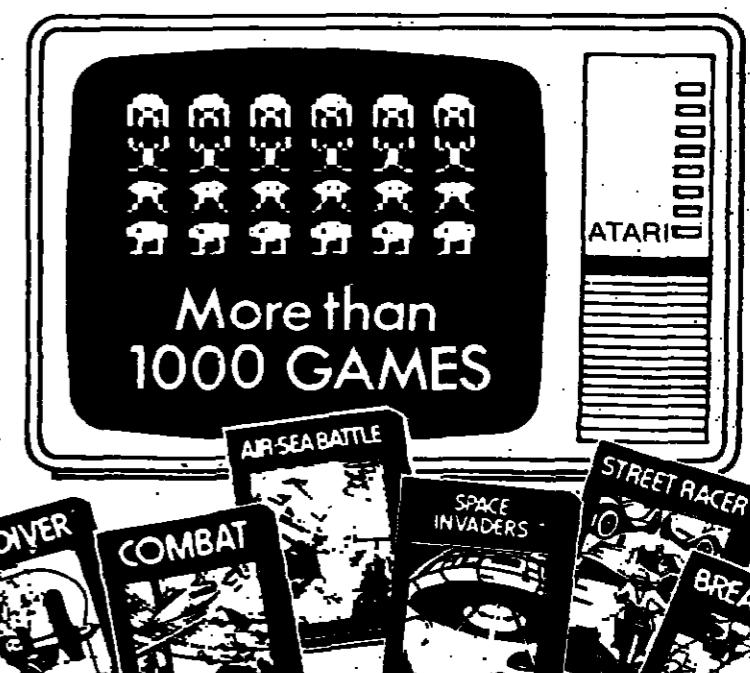
Which is in itself a mindboggling extravagance, as the town is so rich its inhabitants don't have to go to Paris or New York to get the best and latest, but these centers of things fashionable go to them. Their high street, in other words, boasts shops representing all the greatest names in the world of fashion, while their supermarkets have kinds of food which are hard to find even in their countries of origin...

The local banks, it is said... But enough. The point is made. In fact, it is being made to the rest of America, as an influx of the jobless is said to be descending on the town, as news of its fabled riches are becoming more and more known...

Translated from *Asharq Al-Awsat*.

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	Min.	Max.		Min.	Max.
	C	F	C	F	C
Amsterdam	4	39	7	45	cloudy
Athens	3	45	13	55	rain
Bahrain	18	64	26	79	clear
Bangkok	20	82	34	93	clear
Beirut	10	50	12	64	clear
Berlin	2	22	4	39	clear
Brussels	1	34	10	50	min
Buenos Aires	19	66	27	82	clear
Cairo	10	59	19	76	clear
Caracas	18	64	28	82	cloudy
Chicago	2	36	4	38	rain
Copenhagen	1	34	4	38	cloudy
Geneva	3	38	8	46	clear
Helsinki	-5	23	-1	30	snow
Hong Kong	18	64	23	73	clear
Jakarta	22	72	32	90	